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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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FRG EXPERT ON SOVIET ROLE, POLICY IN REGION

London AFRICAN CONCORD in English 11 Dec 86 p 28

[Article by Gill Dwyer]

[Text]

Superpower relations with Africa are moving into a new era, according to experts on Soviet and US policy there. The new Soviet winds gathering momentum under Gorbachev are being felt in Africa. Partly in response to this, the Washington hardliners seem poised to back out of more aggressive policies.

Faced with African realities, the Soviet Union is allowing African socialism to push dreams of pure Marxism into the distant future. It is tolerating gentle slides towards the West in friendly African countries.

At this point its design for South Africa is surprisingly modest, according to Dr Winrich Kuhne, West Germany's foremost expert on Soviet Africa policy, who has just returned from a visit to Russia.

Kuhne, who is attached to a think tank of the Bonn Government, Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik, was impressed by the pragmatism and increasing openness of discussion in the Soviet foreign policy institutes.

At least one message was clear: Africa has made Moscow cynical. It finds the complexities of ethnic conflicts too unmanageable, and at the same time it is disappointed with African socialism. The problem is what the Soviets call "objective conditions".

Objective conditions

Kuhne explains: "Since the time of Lenin it has been debated that the objective conditions — by this is meant industrialisation and a real working class — are almost non-existent in Africa.

"But then they developed the doctrine of socialist orientation where they hoped

that by building up the state economy, mass organisations and a Marxist-Leninist vanguard party, that it might be possible, with the increasing might of the socialist camp and military co-operation, still to move in a socialist direction.

"In the late 1950s there was a lot of optimism that the Soviets could create a zone of peace in Africa from which they could destabilise the capitalist world. The first critical point was Ghana in 1966 when they realised things were much more difficult.

"Now even the outlook of socialist orientation is vanishing. They don't say this directly, but they do talk about a longer time-span. One said to me that before socialism comes to Africa it will be 'not only long, not only very long, but very very long'. One has to correlate this with talk of change among younger academics in the USSR itself."

He continues. "I found Soviets quite willing to admit that state farms and state collectivisation is mostly a failure in Africa. They say this is because many African socialists are too hasty. You find more and more Soviets who believe what is needed is to reinforce private initiative, especially among the peasantry."

Before his last visit to Moscow, Kuhne shared a Western belief that South Africa must be the great Soviet hope for socialism in Africa because of its degree of industrialisation. But now he is convinced that the USSR has no clear policy to turn South Africa into a satellite.

He found agreement that after the fall of apartheid, South Africa will stay economically linked to the West. He added: "What they are hoping for is some sort of socialist

orientation with a mixed economy. They accept that the markets are in the West, and that ideology cannot change the economic factors.

"This view is not just among academics but in the international department of the central committee and other decision-making bodies. One sees that since 1981 they have actually given rather limited support to the African National Congress (ANC)."

Apart from economic factors, the Soviets are wary of pinning hope on South African socialism because they feel the black opposition is too spontaneous and unorganised.

Kuhne said: "The are suspicious of the young comrades in the townships. They do not believe that the young comrades understand socialism. The Soviets misunderstand black consciousness and they are afraid it is racialism.

"Of course, in their propaganda everything to do with the whites is bad. But the Soviets are whites, and on the emotional level the blacks may be more of a problem to them. One does not know which of these views will surface in official policy. But I was surprised to find how much understanding they had for white minority rights."

The new pragmatism does not extend only to whites. Said Dr Kuhne: "If the West starts an initiative to bring black and white to the negotiating table, the Soviets will insist that the ANC is given an important role. But the people I spoke to concede that Inkatha (the mainly Zulu movement of the homeland under Chief Gatsha Buthelezi) should be included too.

"Ethiopia, Angola and other countries have made them afraid of ethnic problems and they feel that national conciliation is important from the beginning."

Soviet dilemma

Soviet behaviour in the Seventies suggested that the Soviets saw benefits in trouble in southern Africa. But now they do not want the situation to get too much out of control. This is because it would make it more difficult to talk with the US on global relations. They feel they already have too many regional problems.

Reticence about provoking the Americans applies all over Africa, although Kuhne stresses that in Angola and Ethiopia, Soviet prestige will not allow them to accept an open military defeat.

From a strategic point of view it is, of course, important to the USSR that a black South Africa remains non-aligned. Particularly for civil cargo traffic to the East (more than 50 per cent of which goes past the Cape), they want to keep the Cape route open.

But Kuhne does not foresee them trying to get a military foothold in South Africa, nor for that matter denying the West use of South African minerals that the Soviet Union itself produces.

He adds: "The Soviets do not have the currency to stockpile these minerals. In fact, to finance development a black government would probably increase production for the Western market. In Angola, for example, all the oil goes to the West and is exploited by Cuban soldiers."

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CSO: 3400/800

NORTH KOREAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN AFRICA REVIEWED

Paris AFRIQUE DEFENSE in French Dec 86 pp 51-52

[Article by Thomas P Ofcansky: "Military Relations Between North Korea and Sub-Saharan Africa"]

[Text] Josip Broz Tito, the Yugoslav president, died in May 1980. North Korea immediately began a campaign aimed at increasing its influence with the Non-Aligned Movement and isolating South Korea from the Third World. In order to achieve its goal, Pyongyang substantially increased its diplomatic and economic relations and, above all, its military contacts, with some African countries, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Angola among them. Each time, North Korea was able to take advantage of existing social and political tensions to further its influence. However, after the few undeniable successes registered by the North Koreans in those countries, there is reason to believe, in view of recent events, that their long-term military policy risks very much to fall short of its final objectives.

Zimbabwe

When Robert Mugabe became prime minister of Zimbabwe in 1980, the internal security of the country was precarious. As a matter of fact, many former guerrilla fighters, left with nothing to do, had turn to banditry to survive, while violence and the settling of political grudges between the two leading ethnic groups, the Shona and the Ndebele, had become common place. In short, the chaos which prevailed during the first days of the independence made it impossible to say whether the new Zimbabwe government would be in a position to keep the entire country under its control. Consequently, no one was surprised when, in August 1981, Mugabe announced that 106 North Koreans, a general and four colonels among them, had arrived in Zimbabwe, accompanied by military equipment valued at \$16 million, ranging from artillery to armored, amphibian and troop-carrier vehicles. This military mission was to train the 5,000 men of the Fifth Brigade in the isolated Inyanga mountain region, east of the country. Reacting almost immediately, Mugabe's opponents, regrouped under Joshua Nkomo's leadership within the Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU), declared that the North Koreans were there to change the brigade into some sort of pretorian guard entrusted with imposing a single party state. In fact, Mugabe merely sent this unit to Mozambique early in 1982, to help the government of this neighboring country launch a 2-month offensive against the

Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), an anti-Marxist movement. It seems that the combat behavior of the Fifth Brigade was deplorable. As a matter of fact, according to persisting rumors, many soldiers fled the battle ground. Learning from this failure, Mugabe reduced the number of North Korean instructors to three. He also decided to transfer the Fifth Brigade headquarters to Gweru, in order to ensure the protection of the western center of Zimbabwe against the ZAPU guerrilla's forays. Then, in October 1982, eager to increase his credibility within the Non-Aligned Movement, Mugabe received the first of some 100 North Korean advisors recalled to Zimbabwe to complete the training of the Fifth Brigade.

By January 1983, Mugabe had regained enough confidence in that brigade to deploy it in the Matabeleland, with the mission of crushing dissident elements that had remained faithful to Nkomo. In the ensuing battles, the politically trustworthy Fifth Brigade, which essentially included troops belonging to the Shona tribe of which the president was a member, proved to be ruthless towards the Ndebele fighters belonging to Nkomo's tribe. As a matter of fact, on the basis of articles published in THE GUARDIAN and THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE, the Zimbabwe Catholic Episcopate Conference denounced the massacres in the course of which this unit would have exterminated between 1,000 and 2,000 innocent civilians (3,000 or more according to Nkomo himself). As for Mugabe, he continues to assert to this day that these atrocities were committed by the rebels. Over the following years, the North Korean mission, which by then had 160 instructors, was put in charge of training the presidential guard and a militia 25,000 men strong. Pyongyang also sold \$640 million worth of armament to Zimbabwe. North Korean workers built a giant monument in Harare, in memory of all those who had fallen during the struggle for the independence of Zimbabwe.

In order to improve the image of the Fifth Brigade as a corps of professionals, the North Koreans launched a martial arts training program. Members of the brigade performed all over the country, from stadium to stadium, breaking bottles, bricks and boards with their heads and their wrists. The North Koreans also organized impressive public demonstrations to show off the military capability of that unit. Taking a more practical decision, Mugabe discreetly ordered some of the men of the Fifth Brigade to take courses from a British team of military instructors and advisers. In March 1986, Brigadier General Sin Hyon Dok, head of the North Korean Mission, announced that his 5-year mission had come to an end. During a farewell reception, Sin disclosed that the militia "was impeccably carrying out its mission which consisted in protecting strategic points on the Zimbabwe border and in leading operations in Mozambique." It was an interesting revelation since Mugabe had always insisted that the purpose of the militia was to protect Zimbabwe from the border-crossing raids originating in South Africa. Sin also thanked Zimbabwe for its support of the reunification of the Korean peninsula. Some 4 months after Sin's departure, it was the turn of Kim Yong-nam, North Korea's prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, to visit Zimbabwe to discuss the prospects of cooperation between the two countries. This high official declared in an official communique: "We are convinced that our visit to Zimbabwe will allow to strengthen further the understanding between our two peoples... and to contribute to the development of the non-aligned."

Uganda

In December 1981, President Milton Obote, on a visit to North Korea, signed a contract of cooperation with Kim Il-sung. Under the terms of this agreement, Pyongyang pledged to send a 30-person military mission to Uganda, entrusted essentially with carrying out maintenance work and training the infantry in Gulu. According to Kim Il-sung, these men were to help Uganda follow "The road of anti-imperialism and independence." For 3 1/2 years the North Koreans, placed under Major General Chin Tang Chung's order, were thus to train Obote's forces in their fight against the rebels, for the purpose of preparing them to fight against the opponents of the regime. The North Koreans are even said to have often led combat units during skirmishes with rebels opposed to the government. Many villagers learned to hate and fear the North Korean officers, for they are said to have incited the Ugandan soldiers to rape and loot, among other misdeeds. When General Bazilio Okello, chief of the defense forces of Uganda, deposed Obote in July 1985, he immediately ordered the North Korean mission, which, in the interim, had grown substantially, to stop its activities. The new government accused the North Koreans of having contributed to the atrocities perpetrated against the Ugandan people, an accusation to which Sang, counselor with the embassy of North Korea in Kampala, reacted with anger. In a statement to the local English-speaking newspaper (MUNNANSI or The Citizen), he specified that North Korea "Was doing its best to come to the aid of Uganda." On 21 August, however, Prime Minister Paulo Muwanga announced both the departure of the mission and his intention to "See to it that relations between Uganda and North Korea grow stronger." The following month, Okello sent a message to Kim Il-sung informing him of his desire to maintain friendly relations with Pyongyang. During a reception to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Yi Sang Il, the North Korean ambassador to Uganda, declared that his government was ready to strengthen cooperation between the two countries. It should be noted that barely 6 months after assuming power, Okello's regime is said to have had recourse to the services of at least eight North Korean military instructors.

Yoweri Museveni, commander of the national resistance army, acceded to the presidency on 29 January 1986 after a military campaign against Okello. Despite the North Koreans' questionable reputation in Uganda, Museveni, who is said to have received military training in North Korea in 1969, remained favorable to Pyongyang. He began negotiations with the North Korean and Soviet ambassadors in February. Two weeks later, he was to announce his intention to ask Kim Il-sung to send military men to carry out the training of the Ugandan army. According to Museveni, this measure was necessary since the equipment of that army had come from North Korea.

Angola

The North Korean military breakthrough in Sub-Saharan Africa was practiced especially well in Angola, a country torn by war. However, trustworthy information on the movements of troops and military activities taking place in that area is rare and limited. We can nonetheless get a general idea of North Korea's involvement in that civil war. Nearly 600 North Korean soldiers, belonging to a combat troop, landed in Angola in November 1983 for the purpose of occupying defensive positions in several towns and villages. In May of that

same year, they numbered close to 3,000, scattered throughout the whole country. In early 1986, North Korean soldiers participated in an offensive against the forces of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) in the Nabuangongo region, some 200 kilometers northeast of Luanda.

The exact number of North Koreans currently operating in Angola is not known. According to the spokesman for the Angolan National Liberation Front (FNLA), which, together with UNITA, is fighting the Marxist government, the men stationed in Angola, ever since the country obtained its independence from Portugal in 1975, are said to number 8,000. South African sources and some western embassies in Kinshasa (Zaire) maintain, however, that there would only be 3,000 North Korean soldiers and 1,000 military advisers operating in Angola. Be that as it may, it is obvious that the presence of North Koreans, Cubans, Soviets and East Germans only serves to prolong the conflict in that country.

Assessment

Although the western powers are somewhat worried by the North Koreans' activities, the results obtained by the North Koreans in the field, in Sub-Saharan Africa, would instead lead one to believe that they contributed very little to the solution of the many problems facing Zimbabwe, Uganda and Angola. It can even be said that Pyongyang seized systematically the smallest opportunity to extend its influence, at the expense of peace and stability in these troubled countries. As far as the future is concerned, everything leads to believe that, in its military relations with Sub-Saharan Africa, North Korea will continue essentially to seek opportunism rather than worrying sincerely about the social and economic development of the continent.

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CSO: 3419/62

POSSIBLE COLLAPSE OF CRISIS-TORN CEAO DISCUSSED

Dakar AFRICA INTERNATIONAL in French Dec 86 pp 19-21

[Article by Saouti Haidara: "Is the CEAO About To Collapse?"]

[Text] Senegal's sudden withdrawal from the special Nouakchott ministerial meeting confirms that the community organization has never been so close to collapse.

Is the West African Economic Community on the verge of collapse? It would be tempting to believe so in view of the many signs of difficulties projected over these past 3 years by the oldest and, it was believed until now, also the most stable of the sub-regional African organization for economic integration.

It began with the "Diawara Affair," a sordid embezzlement of close to 6 1/2 billion CFA francs, disguised as a bad investment, which broke out for the first time in 1983. This tremendous financial scandal, one of a kind on the continent, almost broke up the Community dream with the "Agacher War," which erupted in December 1985, between Mali and Burkina Faso.

Officially presented as the resurgence of a border conflict as old as the independence of the two fighting parties (25 years), this brief, but deadly, confrontation found, however, its immediate cause in the climate of permanent tension generated by the ups and downs of the "Diawara Affair."

Few people know the precise circumstances surrounding the arrest in Mali of the former Ivorian minister of planning and his extradition to Burkina Faso.

Twenty-eight October 1984 was the second day of the 10th CEAO summit meeting. The Malian president, Moussa Traore, and his guests Abdou Diouf of Senegal, Haidallah of Mauritania, Kountie of Niger, Sankara of Burkina, Lansana Conte of Guinea, together with representatives of the presidents of the Ivory Coast, Benin and Togo, were meeting privately in a room of the Friendship Hotel in Bamako. The "Diawara Affair" and the measures to be taken to restructure the CEAO, on both an administrative and financial level, and restore its former renown were at the center of the discussions. Yet, the man who occupied all their interest, energy and time, was walking freely nearby in the carpeted salons of the luxurious hotel, sometimes chatting with a group of friends or of experts,

sometimes breaking away alone for a few moments as if to meditate on the fate awaiting him. At first puzzled when they became aware of Diawara's presence in Bamako, better still, inside the very establishment in which five chiefs of state--Conte had been invited as an observer--could, with a single motion, dramatically change his career, until then remarkable, the participants in the 10th summit finally had to face the evidence: Mohamed Diawara, whom the police had been unable to find despite many long months of intensive search to the four corners of the world, had probably been strongly assured by General Moussa Traore, then active CEA0 president, that he would not be bothered. Otherwise, how could such a cautious man have walked so stupidly "into the lion's den?"

He therefore was the first to be surprised when, on that 28 October, armed Malian policemen arrested him in the crowded hotel lobby. According to a usually well informed source, it was only under the tenacious pressure of Abdou Diouf and, above all, of Captain Sankara, that the Malian president resigned himself to giving this order, carried out by Interpol on a "collective complaint lodged by the CEA0 chiefs of state."

Borne to the presidency of the Community by his peers on the next day, the Burkinabe president delivered a scathing indictment against the CEA0, calling it a "billion-eating abyss, a machine run wild" which he promised "to stop." He uttered these now famous words: "I pledge to deliver next year to the Community populations, either the CEA0 death certificate or the birth certificate of a new Community totally rid of carelessness and laissez-faire," words which aroused the enthusiasm of the crowd of supporters of the single Malian party, who had been invited to attend the closing session, but which succeeded in upsetting the other chiefs of state, inasmuch as it challenged their earlier management. The more so as Sankara twisted the knife even more by attacking those who "Were trying to minimize the crime by letting the criminal escape."

That same day, the president of Burkina Faso was to bend protocol by refusing to leave Bamako without "his" prisoner who had been carefully locked up in the central prison of the Malian capital. His appointed departure was thus delayed by somewhere around 1:30 hours. But he got satisfaction. Moussa Traore, however, harbored a feeling of humiliation from this affair.

The humiliation turned to rage when, 7 months later (August 1985), Ouagadougou declared Driss Keita "persona non grata;" the Malian president had appointed him CEA0 secretary general to succeed Moussa Ngom, a Senegalese, who had been swept away in the flurry of the "Diawara Affair."

The foray, early in December, of Burkinabe troops in the litigious Agacher zone, on the unconvincing pretense of supporting "census operations," gave Moussa Traore the unexpected opportunity to "teach a lesson." Had not the Ivorian president, Houphouet-Boigny, used his tremendous prestige to stop the conflict and bring peace back between the "enemy brothers," the CEA0 could still be a battleground today, rather than this "zone of interdependent and fruitful cooperation" wanted by its promoters.

This "Diawara Affair" is officially closed. Its culprits were caught and punished. But in reality, the Ouagadougou trial (March 1986) did not satisfy

the expectations of the Community populations, contrarily to the promises made by Captain Sankara. Firstly, because they have the feeling that the whole truth was not disclosed, the accused (Mohamed Diawara, Moussa NGom and Moussa Diakite--the latter being the former boss of FOSIDEC [Solidarity and Intervention Fund for the Development of the Community])--having all chosen to remain silent. Where did the minor male and female civil servants, the "Ngomets" and "Ngomettes," go, about whom Thomas Sankara had spoken derisively and who were said to have been implicated in the embezzlement? Where did this "First Lady of the Republic" go, about whom it had been said that she had benefited from Diawara's liberalities? And those government officials who had known about the affair but only shared their knowledge with their chiefs of state very belatedly?

So many unanswered questions, thus causing a deep uneasiness within the Community family.

To be sure, some members of this family are already disappointed, if not disconsolate. The fact-finding commission, set up following the sinister "Diawara Affair," revealed truly dumbfounding inefficiencies, in all sectors of activities of the general secretariat: Administration, financial management, accounting, etc. Everything was being conducted as though the civil servants appointed to these important positions had, in fact, been placed there for their sole benefit and, secondarily, since one must last as long as possible, for the benefit of their country. As for the CEAO files, the least that can be said about them is that they were neglected.

Ten years and more after the Community came into effect, the coordination of customs regulations and fiscal legislation still remains to be done. The joint inventory of tariffs and statistics, which the member states had agreed to draw up, is still in the draft stage. It had been decided in 1976 that a joint external customs tariff would be applied to all the members of the Community. Ten years later, the project has still gone no further than the holding of seminars to determine the best way to tackle the subject.

A coordinated code of investment had also been in the plan: To this day, this work has remained unfinished. Benin joined the organization at the Bamako summit 2 years ago. The joint value-added tax was therefore to be reassessed accordingly. Nothing appears to have been done since then.

Under these circumstances, it is permissible to doubt seriously that the planned creation of an information and documentation center (CRIC) can be implemented in the near future. Now, one of the weaknesses of the CEAO is that the trade statistics, which it issues, do not always reflect--far from it-- the reality of the exchanges.

It is known that, to facilitate and increase these commercial exchanges--the key objective of the CEAO being to become, in due time, a vast market free of any customs duty--, a regional cooperation tax (TCR) was substituted in January 1947 for all the import rights and duties previously collected by each member. The TCR is a preferential tax paid by a country exporting industrial products, whereas raw products (agriculture, fishing, crops and cottage industry) are fully exempt of any custom taxes. There are two "eligibility" requirements for this preferential regime: "candidate" industrial products must either contain

over 60 percent raw material native to the Community, or its Community added value must be higher than 40 percent. Usually, the tax applied to a TCR-approved product accounts for less than 50 percent of the tax applied to a product manufactured outside the Community. Two typical examples: In Senegal, the TCR-approved cotton fabrics are taxed 21 percent. Imported from outside the CEA0, these same fabrics are taxed 93 percent. In Burkina Faso, approved batteries are taxed 42 percent as compared to 70.22 percent when imported from third countries. Needless to say, this system gives an assured substantial advantage to products manufactured within the Community, as compared to non-native competitive products.

The CEA0 currently estimates at 428 the number of approved products or groups of products and at 253 the enterprises manufacturing them. The community market has been estimated at 41 million consumers. The Ivory Coast has the lion's share with 127 enterprises, followed by Senegal (75), Burkina Faso (27), Mali (16), Niger (5) and Mauritania (3).

But it appears that the real commercial situation of the Community is only remotely related to these statistics judged to be unduly high. The fact is that, very often, a country receives approval for a given product without being in a position to export it.

This situation is particularly true for the hinterland countries (Mali, Burkina and Niger) and Mauritania which are at a greater disadvantage when it comes to industrialization. Thus, to compensate these countries for the loss of customs receipts resulting from the establishment of the TCR, a system of compensation--a mini stabex, so to speak--was implemented, namely, the Development Community Fund (FDC). This fund draws its resources from compensatory payments of two-thirds of the capital losses due to the implementation of the TCR. That is to say that the greater the number of approved products exported by a country, the greater its contribution. In actual case, the Ivory Coast and Senegal are therefore the main financial backers of the CEA0. Between 1974 and 1981, their joint contribution hovered around 95.1 percent, these resources being earmarked in priority for the less industrialized countries to help them catch up.

It seems that, until recently, these two complementary systems were operating without difficulties. Thus, between 1976 and 1979, over 7 billion CFA francs were divided among member states, as compensatory payments, according to the following schedule: Burkina (27.6 percent); Senegal (22.9 percent); Mali (14.5 percent); and Mauritania (9.9 percent). The development of some small projects, agricultural, village water works and stock-breeding promotion, was added to these cash payments.

But, in Senegal, the insidious effect of the world economic situation, combined with a persisting drought, led to the collapse of the peanut harvest (912,652 tons in 1982/1983 as compared to 358,478 tons in 1983/1984) which, nonetheless, remained its first export with 55.132 billion CFA francs. At the same time, in the Ivory Coast, cocoa production, its main export, was dropping (471,700 tons in 1981; 366,000 in 1982; and 450,000 tons in 1983).

The two countries are consequently having difficulties honoring their compensatory payments. This in turn causes much anxiety among their Community partners unable to do anything about this lack of fiscal gain at a time when their meager treasury needs it the most. Consequently, the TCR no longer seems as obviously

interesting and some of them would even be thinking about returning to the former system. Should such an idea take hold, it would simply be the same as signing the CEA0's death warrant.

The more so as, in practice, the TCR fares much worse than admitted. The member states do not always practice free competition according to the rules which they themselves established. For example, the approved products imported from the Community are often taxed higher than similar products manufactured locally. Even in the absence of competition, the approved "made in the CEA0" products are often abusively overtaxed. This lack of loyalty is dictated either by national selfishness, tirelessly decried but as long-lived as ever, or by the search for immediate profit to fill some pressing budgetary need.

This disloyalty goes often as far as signing preferential agreements between Community member states and third countries.

In that context, it is easily understood that the commission for the implementation of the reforms advocated by the chiefs of state at the Bamako summit, on the basis of data supplied by the fact-finding commission, is having difficulty functioning. Moreover, this is always the case when state interests are contradictory, if not sources of conflict.

The special ministerial meeting, called in Nouakchott (Mauritania) last September, was to explore the best possible means of bringing together the various viewpoints and, failing to reconcile the different interests, smooth things out. It ended with the sudden withdrawal of Senegal, which, however, is only temporary, if one is to believe the official communique, published by Dakar, explaining a gesture unprecedented in a diplomacy known for its quiet approach and its constant search for a compromise.

It remains that, in the analysis of performances and failures, although some FOSIDEC achievements are worthy, one cannot fail to note that the CEA0 has never been so close to danger.

6857

CS0: 3419/62

INTER-AFRICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

AIR SERVICES AGREEMENT--Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania agreed on air rescue procedures and concluded an agreement on search and rescue operations for missing aircraft at a meeting in Kampala on 6 December. The officials also agreed on procedures to co-ordinate and harmonise air services within east Africa, the Ugandan Transport and Communications Ministry said. The three countries had a joint air traffic control organisation and a joint airline until 1976 when the East African Community collapsed. [Text] [London AFRICA ECONOMIC DIGEST in English 13-19 Dec 86 p 5] /9274

CSO: 3400/800

MPLA SIGNS COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH CUBA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 21 Oct 86 p 1

[Text] Havana--The cooperative relations between the MPLA-Labor Party and the Communist Party of Cuba (PCC) will become more reinforced with the signing on Saturday in Havana of a general agreement on cooperation for the period from 1986 to 1989.

The document was signed by the member of the party's Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee for the ideological area, Roberto de Almeida, representing the Angolan side, and by Jorge Risquet, a member of the PCC Politburo.

On the same day, Roberto de Almeida also signed a protocol on cooperation between the two parties, on this occasion specifically in the ideological realm, for 1986-87. The signer representing Cuba was Carlos Aldana Escalante, a member of the PCC's Central Committee.

In statements to the press, Roberto de Almeida and Jorge Risquet classified the two documents in the context of the traditional cooperation that exists between the two peoples and parties, the high point of which occurred in 1980, when Presidents Jose Eduardo dos Santos and Fidel Castro signed a general agreement for cooperation between the two countries.

Both leaders agreed on the view that the documents now signed will heighten further still the excellent cooperative relations between Angola and Cuba.

Roberto de Almeida also made a brief assessment of the situation in Angola and Southern Africa, which he describes as tense, owing to the imperialist aggressiveness, through South Africa and its agents; similarly underscoring the success achieved by the Angolan revolution, particularly in the areas of education and health.

"The situation is quite tense, but the victory of the freedom fighters is irreversible," he remarked, referring to the constant threatening atmosphere experienced by the people of Southern Africa. In this connection, he stressed the internationalist aid provided by the Cuban and Soviet people, and others of the socialist community, to Angola for the defense of its territorial integrity and sovereignty.

The Central Committee's secretary for the ideological area, who has been in Cuba for several days, has already visited the Isle of Youth, where there are five Angolan schools; and also held an informal meeting with Angolan cadres in Havana who are attending the most varied training courses in the fields of ideology, propaganda, information, and foreign relations.

GDR STEEL INDUSTRY DELEGATION VISITS BENGUELA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 28 Oct 86 p 12

[Text] Benguela--The delegation of trade unionists from the German Democratic Republic which has been in Angola for several days paid a 48-hour visit to Benguela Province.

The German delegation is headed by Raimy Raabe, member of the secretariat of the GDR's national metallurgical directorate, and while in Benguela will visit the Angolan naval shipyards (Estalnav) in Lobito, as well as holding meetings with provincial leaders, namely, the provincial commissar, Maj Joao Lourenco, member of the party's Central Committee.

The German delegation, whose return to the nation's capital is set for today, is accompanied by the Benguela provincial first secretary of UNTA [National Union of Workers of Angola], Jose Coelho Fortes.

Correspondents' Seminar

Last Sunday, a provincial seminar for young correspondents and political agitators, organized by the provincial secretariat of the JMPLA [Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Party Youth, opened at the Lutuima cultural center in Baia Farta, with nearly 30 seminar members participating.

The seminar attendees discussed the practical work of a correspondent and a propagandist, and the importance and necessity of propaganda, as well as preparing a mural newspaper, with concepts of the principles of journalism and regarding young correspondents.

The purpose of the seminar is to provide the propagandists with a uniform political training for the work of agitation and propaganda, and to teach them to serve as groups to transmit the goals and nature of the youth organization, as a spokesmen for the involvement of young groups in the tasks of national reconstruction.

2909

CSO: 3442/63

OFFICIALS VISIT KWILO-NGONGO AT ZAIRE BORDER

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 22 Oct 86 p 12

[Text] Kwilo-Ngongo--The provincial commissar of Uije, Zeferino Estevao Juliana, member of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee, was recently in the locality of Kwilo-Ngongo, in the Lower Zaire region of the Republic of Zaire, where, in connection with the agreements between the heads of state and government of the respective countries, he discussed topics relating to the borders dividing the two regions.

During the course of the meeting, both sides analyzed the respective concerns brought up on that occasion, regarding the security of individuals and goods.

A joint communique, distributed to the press at the conclusion of the talks, stresses the fact that this regional meeting relates to the efforts expended by the governments of both countries, through dialogue, and associated with accords and periodic consultations on matters involving the border, based on the agreements signed by the two heads of state and government. According to the document, the heads of both countries expressed their desire to ward off any situation capable of upsetting the calm that exists along the border separating the two provinces, whose border stations were opened on 24 August of this year. The stations are located in Kimbata (Angola) and Kimbango (Zaire).

Meeting With the Angolan Community

In addition to the talks, the provincial commissar of Uije, Zeferino Estevao Juliana, held a meeting with the Angolan community settled in Kwilo-Ngongo, during which he commented on the various changes in the Angolan people's current phase of struggle. That member of the MPLA-Labor Party, addressing 2,000 Angolans, who represent 8,000 fellow countrymen, declared: "In independent Angola, every Angolan is working, earns a wage, and is living in peace; he has food and supplies for his entire family."

4,000 Angolans Working in Local Sugar Mill

The Angolan delegation also visited the Kwilo-Ngongo sugar mill, based on joint Belgian-Zairian capital; with only 40 percent of its operation incumbent on the

Zairian side, and the remaining 60 percent on the Belgian side. During the visit to this manufacturing complex, which employs nearly 4,000 Angolans, producing 52 tons of sugar, the provincial commissar of Uije received explanations on its operation.

In addition to the aforementioned tonnage of sugar, the enterprises produces a million liters of alcohol per year, nearly 800 kilograms of carbon dioxide per year, and a ton of carbon anhydride per year.

2909

CSO: 3442/61

FRENCH INTELLIGENCE REPORTS CHEMICAL WEAPONS IN USE

Lisbon AFRICA CONFIDENCIAL in Portuguese Oct 86 p 8

[Text] The French secret service has some evidence that the FAPLA has used chemical weapons in its battles with the UNITA on at least three different occasions. It is presumed that what was involved was the bombs known by the code name "Pabun," which release green and yellow gases of the same type as those used in Afghanistan. The effects of these chemical agents range from blindness to paralysis and even the development of open sores on the body.

The investigations carried out by the French secret service (SDECE) were facilitated by the cooperation of Doctors Without Frontiers, an organization which has worked with the UNITA in the Jamba territory and which has provided aid to the guerrilla fighters injured by these weapons. In their preliminary reports, the doctors said that the guerrilla fighters they had treated presented symptoms like those of the Afghan resistance fighters injured by these weapons.

In order to further confirm the results of the preliminary reports, the evacuation of the guerrilla fighters in question from the country was arranged. They are undergoing more thorough medical examinations in an unidentified Western country (presumably the FRG) at this time. The UNITA wants to exploit this development to the maximum, in an effort to compromise the MPLA regime.

The use of chemical weapons against the UNITA is said to have occurred in the provinces of Bie and Cuando-Cubango. They were allegedly dropped from pressurized helicopters supplied to Angola a short time ago by the Soviet Union, in operations in which Soviet advisers assisted.

In recent years, the FAPLA forces have reportedly used chemical defoliants in its efforts to prevent the movement of the UNITA guerrilla fighters in certain areas with denser growth, but this is the first time they have made use of weapons designed to cause injury to human beings.

However, this possibility has been under consideration by the general staff of the UNITA since at least March of this year. In the months since, special masks for the use of the guerrilla fighters were ordered for protection against these weapons. Some UNITA units have been equipped with these masks.

Some Angolan officers captured by the UNITA recently reported, during the questioning to which they were subjected, that Soviet technicians had come to Angola to oversee the work of building silos for the storage of chemical weapons. It was not possible to learn where the construction sites were.

The chemical weapons used by the Soviets in Afghanistan were developed on the basis of the German technology of the World War II era, with rather primitive safety features. The main chemical agents are the toxic chemicals T-2, HT-2 and DAS, each of which produces certain specific effects on the human body.

There are indications that following the first public announcements by the UNITA about the chemical weapons, the Angolan government ordered their use suspended. A protocol signed in Geneva in 1925 and an agreement on biological warfare dating back to 1972 prohibit the use of such weapons.

5157

CSO:3442/55

LONDON PUBLICATION DISCUSSES UNITA-SADF CONNECTION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] London--The symbiosis between the "SADF" [South African Defense Forces] and the anti-Angolan counterrevolutionary group is such that the most sophisticated operations against the sovereignty of the Angolan state are invariably headed by special units of Pretoria's racist army.

This association has been disclosed and documented once again by the London weekly, AFRICA CONCORD, which claims that the anti-Angolan puppet group is an inseparable complement to the South African Armed Forces.

In its latest issue, AFRICA CONCORD asserts that the anti-Angolan terrorist group is part of the counterrevolutionary constellation of the American president Ronald Reagan.

In a major 10-page article, AFRICA CONCORD quotes Trevor Howard, a former member of the 23d Battalion, an elite unit led by South African officers and white mercenaries recruited by the puppet organization with money provided by the CIA.

That former commando maintains that the terrorists paid by the imperialists never participate directly in the most critical operations carried out on Angolan territory, only doing so when their employers have already "swept" the entire area. "They intervene only to raise their flag," claims Trevor Howard.

AFRICA CONCORD says that it is crucial for South Africa to maintain the UNITA terrorist group as a "serious threat" to Angola, so as to preserve Pretoria's influence in the entire Southern African region.

The London weekly declares that the South Africans attested to their determination to prevent the military defeat of their puppets in Angola during September 1985, when the racist army had to mobilize its best land and air facilities to preclude the seizure of Mavinga by the Angolan Armed Forces.

Trevor Howard documented the fact that, in the attack of September 1985, the South Africans even had to mobilize their best air forces because, the year before, they had suffered humiliating defeats during the so-called "Askari" operation.

AFRICA CONCORD stresses that the battle of Mavinga prompted a South African delegation to visit Washington at the end of September to request the United States' immediate intervention on behalf of the anti-Angolan terrorists. The begging brought its first results in December, when President Ronald Reagan authorized covert aid for the puppets, during a preliminary phase, with "Stinger" surface to air missiles.

The London weekly reports that the South African appeal to the U.S. for military aid resulted from the heightening of the FAPLA operational capacity, which has threatened not only the Angolan bandits' immediate survival, but also Pretoria's military superiority.

Quoting Robert Jaster, of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, AFRICA CONCORD claims that, despite the covert aid from Washington, the SAFD will no longer be able to carry out destructive missions in Angolan territory with impunity. The analyst declares: "It would appear that South Africa is facing the prospect of heavy casualties in future battles in Angola."

2909

CSO: 3442/60

OFFICIAL VOWS NEVER TO NEGOTIATE WITH UNITA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 22 Oct 86 p 12

[Text] Porto--The secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee for youth and support to mass organizations, Paulo Junior, reaffirmed in the city of Porto that, "The People's Republic of Angola will never negotiate with UNITA members and puppet groups in the pay of the racist South African regime."

He said: "The Angolan position lies in the context of the efforts undertaken by the international community aimed at maintaining world peace and the consistent international position favoring the maintenance of world peace and the elimination of the threat of the outbreak of a nuclear war, the consequences of which are unpredictable."

The Angolan leader also observed that, "In the People's Republic of Angola, the MPLA-Labor Party and its government, faithful to their principles, continue to practice their policy of clemency toward all those citizens who, for various reasons, were deceived to serve the interests of elements which have never favored the independence of the Angolan people, won with blood shed by their best children."

Paulo Junior, who spoke at the session which marked the conclusion of the work of the Second Convention of the Portuguese Democratic Renewal Party (PRD), scored the campaigns of defamation of which the People's Republic of Angola is currently the target, delineated by the extreme right wing of certain Western countries and spurred on by the U.S. administration, which has publicly assumed their leadership, violating the fundamental principles of relations between sovereign peoples.

The Angolan leader reported that 50,000 persons maimed by war, an inestimable number of deaths among the defenseless population, and sizable material destruction are an unequivocal indication, holding the racist South African regime, promoter of "apartheid," responsible for the tension prevailing in Southern Africa.

The secretary of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee also charged that the systematic, treacherous attacks by South Africa on the People's Republic of Angola are aimed at undermining its economy and countering the efforts for

national reconstruction that are under way in the country, and, ultimately, at overthrowing the legally established government, to put the puppets in power and perpetuate "apartheid" and the occupation of Namibia.

In this connection, the Angolan leader reaffirmed the Angolan people's determination to continue their struggle against the imperialist puppets on the one hand, and, on the other, expressed the desire of the People's Republic of Angola to continue to hail all the peace initiatives aimed at a just and lasting solution to the conflicts that exist in the world.

On behalf of the Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos, and the Angolan people, he wished the greatest success to the members of the Portuguese Democratic Renewal Party, and asserted that President Ramalho Eanes, now leader of the party, "will work in the direction of the decisions made at this second convention, to intensify the action of all conscious, honest members for helpful victories capable of contributing to the dynamization of Portugal's relations with the African countries which have Portuguese as their official language."

2909

CSO: 3442/63

FORMER FNLA MEMBERS IN UIJE JOIN MPLA

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 29 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] Uije--The provincial commissar of Uije, Zeferino Estevao Juliana, member of the Central Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, recently visited the municipality of Dange-Quitexe, where he was informed about the effort to reintegrate fellow countrymen from the defunct puppet organization, "FNLA."

During his stay in that locality, Zeferino Estevao Juliana met with the local party and government officials, as well as with provincial delegates for social affairs, health, internal trade, and education, with whom he discussed matters relating to the social status of those being reintegrated.

Preceding the popular rally, at which he once again explained the essence of the policy of clemency ordered by the late-lamented President Agostinho Neto, the Uije provincial commissar also met with those reintegrated into the great Angolan family.

Assistant Coordinator Visits Municipality of Negage

The assistant coordinator of the provincial control and inspection commission, Armando Luacuti, recently visited the municipality of Negage to become apprised "on the spot" of the degree of socioeconomic organization and development in that municipality.

During his stay in the latter municipality, the assistant coordinator held a meeting with the local heads of the party's rank and file organizations, at which he gave a brief explanation of his visit to that locality, where he also visited the "Nelito Soares" party cell of the Kangundo commune.

2909

CSO: 3442/61

CHIPENDA DISCUSSES POLITICAL SITUATION, UNITA

Lisbon AFRICA in Portuguese 26 Nov 86 pp 9-11

[Interview with Daniel Chipenda by Leston Bandeira and Joao Van Dunem; date and place not given]

[Text] Twenty-five years is nothing in the history of a country. But in the short history of man it is a lifetime. Chipenda now has a patriarchal air. With a heavy graying beard and a serious, expressive face, he photographs well. He is a far cry from the Chipenda of the late 50s and early 60s in Mandarin, Republic Square, Coimbra or in the field in Santa Cruz, in Sereia. Or even in the municipal stadium in Calhabe, where he was an idol.

After all, it was in this stretch of time between the Faculty of Sciences (geology course) and Calhabe that Chipenda awakened to the real situation in his distant country. The son of a clergyman, he arrived in Coimbra in 1958. Let us listen to his words.

"At that time an intensive awakening of awareness was occurring in student circles. There were young people from Angola and Mozambique. It was in this environment of impassioned discussion that I developed the subjective capacity to understand, some time later, the message of some of the people with whom I talked in Luanda during my academic stay in Angola and Mozambique."

[Question] Was the discussion in Luanda political?

[Answer] There was a strong nationalist movement and political issues were readily discussed in certain circles. The older citizens, our people, all the individuals I could contact told me plainly or in a more subtle fashion that we should continue to study and to contemplate struggle against the anachronistic situation prevailing in the country.

[Question] Do you still remember the names of the individuals with whom you talked?

[Answer] Surely. I remember old Verissimo and Pascoal and others. We met, and when we left for Lisbon, some of them even came to the airport to insist on this theme to us.

Let us return to Coimbra in 1960.

Chipenda has a visible affection for the city of the doctors. He spoke to us in his office. He was obviously cold, and he kept his hands in the pockets of his coat and leaned back in his chair, moving little. When he showed enthusiasm and his serious voice rose a few notes, he took his hands from his pockets, leaned forward, and talked more freely, but he would then return to his initial serious attitude. No great effort is needed to recall the main facts in his life, on the basis of which he is intimately involved with the politics of his country. He is certain that he has contributed to writing a part of its history.

"In 1960 we received the MPLA manifesto, which had been sent by the then president of the movement, Mario Pinto de Andrade. This document was signed by all of the members of the leadership committee. In addition to that of Mario de Andrade himself, there were the signatures of Viriato da Cruz, Lucio Lara, Hugo de Menezes and Eduardo dos Santos. I have not forgotten that the watchword was organization.

"We were to organize in Portugal. And at that time there were many Angolans studying in Coimbra and Lisbon. Our first task was to organize and to prevent these students from joining the army.

"Then, with the support of Carlos Pestana (Katiana), Manuel Videira and Filipe Amado, we mobilized the Angolan students. There was an extraordinarily positive aspect--in Portugal, the MPLA practiced no form of discrimination. We contacted whites, blacks and mulattoes."

[Question] The mobilization of the Angolans in that era also influenced many Portuguese students. It was a period of great political activity in Coimbra. There was, for example, the whole issue of "students' day." What were your relations with the Portuguese organization?

[Answer] Until 1961, the year of the armed rebellion in our country, we were in contact with the Portuguese student movements. We were active in groups which opposed the regime. But the truth is that the rise of the organized MPLA, or that which was being organized, among the students, had a considerable influence. For example, at the time of the crisis in 1962, we, as student soccer players, supported the strike.

[Question] It was at that time that you were seized by the PIDE and forced to play. Do you recall parts of that incident?

[Answer] I was arrested and on the Sunday immediately following, we had a very important meeting. Things took on major dimensions and Salazar, who was not stupid, decided that there would be no games. He prevented the existing disturbance within academic circles from taking on greater scope. Did he foresee the developments if the students profited from the soccer matches for huge demonstrations against the colonial war and to denounce the arrests?

Chipenda explained the whole history of that era in detail. The crisis in the AAC, the resignation of the democratically elected leadership, the appointment

of an administrative commission made up of military personnel. He, Chipenda, went to Santa Comba Dao after having refused to play against Sporting (it was this scheduled game which the AAC lost, in the end, 3 to 1).

The AAC team which agreed to play, after being asked to agree individually, rather than collectively, as Chipenda had proposed to Wilson, went to Curia.

For a time the discussion ceased to be political. There was a reminder that this was a crisis involving soccer. There was no mention of the machine guns trained on those present, but the plans for avoiding use of the municipal stadium were discussed. Only....

"Only the army, on instructions from the PIDE," Chipenda said, "surrounded the stadium beginning on Wednesday, and everything went wrong."

Flight to Morocco

A part of the interview is on file. Chipenda is an excellent talker, moreover. In the afternoon he talked at length, and we only noticed this when we looked at the written record and considered the number of pages. Let us therefore abandon Chipenda the soccer player, and let us understand, or make an attempt to, Chipenda the politician.

To begin at the beginning, there was the flight from Lisbon to Fuzeta by car, where the escape had been planned by Nunes, whose father was a fisherman. The departure from Fuzeta was effected in a trawler belonging to a veteran gunrunner from the days of the Spanish civil war.

"David Nunes was so cautious that on the night of the escape, he organized a party for the men who patrolled the coast. When we departed, they were all clinking their glasses.

"We set forth on our adventure.

"But the sea was so rough that we were unable to reach Casablanca. We had paid in advance--40 contos--and the trawler man took us to within sight of the coast. There we were aided by a Moroccan fishing vessel."

Chipenda continued his narrative, after first praising the helpfulness of the Moroccan fishermen.

[Question] But did you have some address, the name of someone to whom you could turn?

[Answer] We knew that the CONCP had its headquarters in Rabat. And it was to the office of that organization that we telephoned after we had identified ourselves to the harbormaster of Casablanca.

There was a pause in the story while he identified his comrades in this adventure--N'Dalu Franca, Pires, Matos, Leopoldo, Jose Julio (from Mozambique), Araujo and two children. One was Chipenda's daughter who, in the midst of all this, still found time and willingness to fall in love and marry.

Letter to Savimbi in Umbundu

Once in Rabat, after establishing formal relations with the CONCP, Chipenda received a messenger. Let us return to his story.

"To my surprise, a foreign lady, a Swiss citizen, sought me out in Rabat. She had a message, the text of which was 'Take care of Chipenda, so that he will not be seized by the enemy.' The message was written in Umbundo, and it was from Savimbi.

"The lady told me that she came with instructions to take me to Switzerland, where there was a chalet awaiting me. And furthermore, she brought instructions that I should go to the UPA, with my wife and my daughter."

[Question] But what contact did you have with Savimbi?

[Answer] I knew Savimbi. Our countries were friendly, and therefore I found it strange that he had not written to me, but had instead sent me this Swiss lady. I wrote a letter back to him. It was in Umbundo, his language, because both Savimbi and I are Umbundus, although from different regions. There are also linguistic differences between us.

In my letter I said that I had found it odd that he sent a foreign lady to speak to me about our problems.

Letter from Neto

[Question] But had you no contact with the MPLA, then? How do you explain...

[Answer] We were in contact, obviously. I was just telling you the story. And there is still more. An American gentleman also appeared, asking how many comrades I had had when I fled, and he advised me about getting organized, etc. He said that he was there in Rabat consistent with the spirit of the CONCP, and I continued to make contact with the CONCP comrades until I received a letter from Neto.

He told me that he had learned of my work in Portugal and he invited me to join the MPLA in order to combat colonialism.

[Question] Faced with these invitations, what did you decide?

[Answer] Then I thought: Savimbi sends me foreigners to offer me a chalet in Switzerland, while Neto, who is older than I, praises me and asks me to fight for the freedom of our people. There is no choice possible here...

Let us interrupt again, to summarize. Chipenda went to Germany, left his family there and proceeded to Kinshasa, where he talked with Mario Pinto de Andrade, who was then the president of the MPLA.

After consideration of the various ways in which Chipenda could work (joining the People's Army of Liberation of Angola), Chipenda finally chose to work with Lucio Lara, then director of the organization and personnel department.

In May of 1963 the Youth Congress was held. Chipenda was elected president of the MPLA Youth. Jose Eduardo dos Santos, now the president of Angola, was the vice president.

Crises

Let us return to our account of the interview. The crises were soon to come up. Chipenda paid increasing attention to our talk. His head sank toward his shoulders and his eyes became brighter. The Cascais sun had already set some time earlier, and the room was in semi-darkness, which seemed to make our talk more intense.

"In May of 1963, there was a tremendous crisis within the MPLA. Mario and Viriato da Cruz left."

[Question] But what was the explanation for the crisis?

[Answer] It was more a crisis of coexistence than anything else. The older men had created a tremendous international reputation without the structures to justify it. The organization was something which could be collapsed from one moment to the next by a sudden gust of wind.

Faced with a certain harsher reality, the cadres could not deal with it and wanted to depart. We, the little fellows, supported Agostinho Neto. My contribution to this support was considerable, because I had the youth contingent, in which Hoji Ya Henda, for example, was active. Later we had Comrade Deolinda Rodrigues in the OMA.

[Question] At that point the African winds were not very favorable to your cause.

[Answer] It was precisely at that time that the GRAB, Holden Roberto's government, was recognized by the OAU and a number of countries. We were ostracized. We suffered a number of reverses, with the effort to enter the First Region, with the Cinfuegos and Bomboko squadrons. We then decided to establish the East Front. In 1964, I flew to Lusaka. The British and the South Africans were still there, and Zambia was not yet independent. The authorities learned of my movements and I was arrested and sentenced to forced labor. Later, I was released, declared persona non grata and expelled from Zambia. I did not return to Zambia until 1968, but by that time circumstances were different, and the transition period was already in the past.

[Question] But after your expulsion from Lusaka...

[Answer] I went to Brazzaville.

Savimbi Again

"I returned to Brazzaville precisely at the time when Savimbi, who had withdrawn from the FNLA, was applying for admission to the MPLA. A

controversy arose, because on the one hand, it was said that he could not be a militant in the MPLA because in fact there was great rivalry between the people in the MPLA and the UPA.

"Then it was decided that cooperation was possible. Only the MPLA bylaws did not provide for the election of leaders of the movement except at a congress, and Savimbi wanted to be a leader.

"It was I who, in talking with him, established that we could work on a parallel basis. He mobilized the cadres he had such as to bring them closer to ours so we could organize a general staff to intensify our war. Savimbi went to Ponta Negra and told the UPA commanders that they should cease to wage war against the MPLA guerrilla forces. There were two combat zones. They were in one and the MPLA was in the other.

"This, as came to be seen later, was the embryo of the future movement of Jonas Savimbi."

[Question] How is it possible to be sure of this? Would it not have been a matter of rejection, pure and simple, instead?

[Answer] No...no. It is easy to show that the MPLA dealt in good faith. Immediately after this agreement, Comrade Neto sent Savimbi to Lusaka, where, moreover, Anibal de Melo headed our delegation. Savimbi arrived in Lusaka and performed a major about-face. He began to accuse us of being a movement of mulattoes and whites, of failing to defend the interests of the people, etc. (Anibal de Melo was a mulatto).

He began to make use of specifically ethnic and racial factors to promote his movement. Now, there were many Umbundus in Zambia.

At that point, I was in Cabinda, and Comrade Neto sent me a message asking me to proceed to Lusaka to try to counteract Savimbi's actions. This was a period of great battles in Cabinda. At that time, Che Guevara and five other Cubans were with us in Angola, in Buco Zau.

Again we interrupt the narrative. Our interlocutor recalled names and facts and battles against the Portuguese troops. Hoji Ya Henda, Spencer, Tonha (Pedale) were the names he mentioned most often.

Orders were issued from Brazzaville by Agostinho Neto. "Chipenda, come immediately!" Chipenda came. For a few days, he ceased to be a guerrilla fighter. He had to go to Dar es Salaam. He traveled from Paris with Marcelino dos Santos and other FRELIMO comrades.

"The first weapons with which we established the East Front were given us by the FRELIMO. Twelve machine guns. On 18 May 1966, we attacked a group of Portuguese foot soldiers in Lumbala. The Portuguese authorities never thought that the MPLA could get through Zambia. Twelve Portuguese citizens were caught in this ambush. It was Commander Canhangulo who ordered the attack.

"This incident created a complicated situation, because the Portuguese were shelling a number of positions and they reached Zambia. Agostinho Neto had to provide Kaunda with a series of explanations, and we decided to penetrate farther into the interior. At that time, only the GRAE was recognized by the OAU."

[Question] How do you explain the fact that the UNITA had established itself in a zone which was controlled by the MPLA guerrilla forces?

[Answer] That is not true. We speaking of the East. Savimbi never fought in the East. He went there en route to Cangumbe to obtain the protection of the Portuguese. It was the MPLA and I who fought and mobilized and worked in the East. And we did everything, from establishing literacy schools and small medical aid centers to military organization. This was no bluff. Moreover, when an OAU delegation visited there, I myself showed them what we had done. In Cazombo we had electric light.

If I am asked what the singular phenomenon in this war was I would say--and I am certain--that Savimbi seized people and forced them to act. He did not have the support we had when we waged the guerrilla war. In our case, the militants offered to fight. It is not that way today. Savimbi compels people to fight.

Chipenda began to expand. His voice took on new depth and his gestures now were expressive. He interrogated us with his eyes, and the question was inevitable. After all, we were speaking of the East.

[Question] How did the East Revolt develop?

[Answer] We in the MPLA made a mistake. Sometimes we were not successful in understanding our people, what they are like. We intellectuals, the so-called know-it-alls, believed that we could impose a given policy, whereas this cannot be done. We were wrong because we wanted to dictate.

In the early days everything went well, but in 1968, at the time of the first major Portuguese offensive against our forces, with commandos transported by helicopter, chemical warfare, etc., difficulties developed and led many people to think in subjective terms. For example: "Where is that fellow from? He is from the north. And the other, that guy? From the north."

And also, because there were many excesses, the commanders themselves quite frequently did not know how to deal with the people.

In talking with the people, I established that serious errors had been committed, leading them to ask: "What is this?"

In 1969, I was in a CIR, where Lucio Lara was, and I learned that a group of guerrilla fighters had just set out for the Zambian frontier to meet with Neto, wherever he might be. There were about 800 of them. It was I who explained to them that they could not all go to Zambia. Kaunda would go along with us. Apart from that, Agostinho Neto was in Brazzaville. Their answer, an explanation for their movement, was: "If there are only one

or two of us, we will be shot. And so we will all stay." They had demands to make, and I simply offered to serve as the arbiter for the two commissions to be established.

[Question] But this campaign of demands lasted a long time then, because they were only set forth at the Lusaka Congress.

[Answer] In 1972, I went to Yugoslavia. When I returned, almost all of the MPLA cadres were waiting to greet me. It is true that almost all of the cadres were mulattoes. There had been more opportunities for them. That must be accepted. They told me it was necessary to adopt a position. They said I must do this. I answered that I would not be the one to go and talk to Neto. Well, when the people have demands, these cadres do not support them, but when there is no cheese or butter....that is the philosophy. And these were the same people who supported presidentialism.

[Question] Let us talk about the congress now. Why did the Lusaka Congress in 1974 fail?

[Answer] At the congress, I was on the outside, along with the illiterates. I only wanted to find a formula, and there were three positions. My positions were always those which would provide a foundation for unity. The congress failed because Neto refused to deliver the report of the leadership. He had been the president of the movement since 1962. He refused and we insisted. And then he departed.

[Question] But then there was the whole business of the entry into Luanda. In the final analysis, it was Agostinho Neto who had the support of the militants in the interior.

[Answer] Interior...but who was in the interior? Agostinho Neto resigned as president at a meeting of leaders of African states in Bukavu. It was I who told him no, you should not submit your resignation to the chiefs of state. They are not members of the MPLA. The resignation should be submitted to the members of the movement.

[Question] In any case, the truth is that later Chipenda emerged on the side of Holden Roberto.

[Answer] After that attack on my delegation in Luanda, where Valodia, whom I always held in great esteem, died. Moreover, we were good friends. What could I do? I had 10,000 armed men. How could I participate? I had to seek alliances. With the UNITA it was a tribal alliance, and with the FNLA it was a more national alliance. At that time, I still believed it was possible to think of elections. The alliance in which I engaged did not cause me to lose national identification. They called me a traitor. The Kudí-Banguelas insulted me.

Chipenda said all of these things calmly. If he felt emotion, he did not show it. He still had his hands in his pockets and spoke in a quiet voice. The past seemed very distant. We returned to the present.

[Question] And now? Chipenda has returned to Luanda. What are the goals? Throughout this talk, you have often spoken of unity.

[Answer] There are no dogmas in politics. Unity is not a subject defended individually. I learned to defend it in the MPLA.

Dialogue

[Question] But what has changed in the MPLA?

[Answer] It is not important to know what has changed. It is not this it is of interest to discuss. The MPLA is also thinking about unity. If the Angolan problem were resolved just among ourselves, there would be no problem. In a way we have already been bypassed, but we can recover.

[Question] When you say that the problem should be resolved just among Angolans, are you saying that the Angolan question is not merely that, but may be a part of the so-called East-West conflict?

[Answer] We must prevent it from becoming that.

[Question] And how can this be done?

[Answer] The MPLA is prepared for dialogue. We are moving toward dialogue now. We will try to find a solution for all Angolans.

[Question] This suggests a more open approach. What are its limits?

[Answer] I have the impression that there are no limits. The Angolan government has a program and is sovereign. During the years of struggle there were also hesitations. There were periods in which the white man was identified as the enemy, until the movement undertook an analysis and came to the conclusion that the enemy was colonialism. And who is the enemy now?

[Question] It is said that Chipenda will return to Angola in order to counteract Savimbi, in a way. Would you like to comment?

[Answer] In Angola I did not participate in any conflict. The problem I face is knowing whether at this time we can find a solution and if I can be useful.

In connection with the UNITA, I think that the basic problem is South Africa. It is necessary to engage in serious talks with South Africa. Even more serious than the Nkomati talks. This would make it possible to get beyond all of the problems.

[Question] Will you return without any party affiliation?

[Answer] It is not necessary for all the Angolans to be party militants in order for them to make their contribution to the country.

[Question] Would Chipenda sign an appeal to the Angolan cadres to return to the country?

[Answer] Yes. I was there and I saw. They say that Angola has regressed 50 or 100 years. It is not because the Cubans are there. It is because the cadres left.

[Question] Do you believe that the political conditions needed to make competence prevail over political favoritism exist?

[Answer] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos will do everything he can.

5157

CS0:3442/55

MPLA DIPLOMATIC MANEUVERS DISCUSSED

Lisbon SEMANARIO in Portuguese 29 Nov 86 p 51

[Article by Carlos da Matta: "Angola, the Diplomatic Battle Intensifies"]

[Text] The scheduled visit by the RPA's foreign affairs minister, Afonso Van Dunem, "Mbinda," to Portugal unquestionably reflects a trend toward improving the fluctuations that have marked relations between the two countries, and follows upon contacts on various levels, both political and commercial.

The event will take place during one of the most difficult periods for the Angolan economy, as a result of the decline in oil revenue and the constant drop in food production. Attesting to the financial situation are the many bank overdraws (estimated at several million dollars) by the National Bank of Angola, largely involving its foreign representatives.

Hence, it is likely that the economic "dossiers" will be underscored during "Mbinda's" visit, as will the perpetual UNITA "dossier."

In fact, the hot, rainy season became entrenched and the FAPLA's April to September offensive lasted only a few weeks. Even before it began, according to well-informed sources in Luanda, the Soviets and Cubans were opposed to its execution, advocated by the MPLA Armed Forces high command.

But even among inveterately militarist figures, the notion that it will be necessary to negotiate has already made considerable headway; and, confidential remarks from some of those figures to whom we have had access indicate that the goal thereof is to force UNITA to go on the defensive, and subject it to major defeats, so as then to negotiate from a position of strength. They add that this might occur within a year and a half or 2 years.

Under these conditions, one does not know whether the Soviet-Cuban opposition stemmed from fear of the South African reaction or whether they are simply not interested in ending the war (assuming that the Angolan officials' plan worked out, which also appears unlikely). The fact is that FAPLA initiated the offensive, as we reported at the time, and it failed, in view of UNITA's defense capacity, the South African warning in Namibia, and the meager cooperation from the RPA's allies.

Zaire's Time

Now, it is UNITA which is attacking, with emphasis on the northern provinces (including Cabinda); this has evoked accusations from Luanda, claiming that "Savimbi is being backed by Mobutu," and, at the same time, has put the latter in the position of being heeded concerning what is happening in the southern part of his country.

In the official political realm, the impression that one has is that the president of the republic is entangled in a group of immobilizing alliances, both internal and international, from which he has not succeeded in emerging. Thus, the cabinet reshuffling that was undertaken months ago has led to the formation of a group with less governing ability than the RPA now has because of concessions to various movements comprising its party. Moreover, for a long time, the real state decision-making center has not been the government, but rather the Defense and Security Council, a restricted organ which meets regularly with the president.

On the other hand, it is well known that the Soviets and Cubans suspect Jose Eduardo dos Santos of attempting to increase his maneuvering room in relation to the allies and, according to the Luanda "mujimbo," the USSR is counting on Roberto de Almeida as an alternative or a mere threat. With an ideological conduct that we have already discussed here, and obvious ambition, Roberto is available for any alliance that would promote him on the path to power, paying the respective price. His action was decisive in the Politburo's communique in which there was an attack on the clandestine dissemination in Angola of international press articles and the population was warned not to cooperate with it.

He was also the one who attempted to launch a campaign against the Catholic Church from which he was prevented by the president himself, even forcing him to receive the cardinal of Luanda.

The Kremlin's Debt

But the USSR is not opposed to the RPA's economic cooperation with the West, provided it is not reflected in an increase in the latter's political influence. In fact, Moscow cannot support Luanda in this area, and is concerned about the enormous size of the Angolan military debt to the Kremlin. To emerge from this entanglement of stalemates, pressure and commitments, the present ruling class would require great political courage; and all the more so since the people's protests are not ceasing, the demands for democracy are gaining ground, and time can only lead to the deterioration of the situation now.

From this standpoint, resorting to arms is only an expedient to enable the forces in confrontation to maintain their apparatus and to make themselves heard, because there are no legal structures whereby it would be possible to proceed peacefully. The fact that even the militarists are talking about negotiations is significant, and reduces the scope of certain statements made at rallies.

Hence, the diplomatic battle on which the two belligerent sides have embarked, one for which the Portuguese Republic will undoubtedly be intensely solicited: for cultural reasons, because of its capacity for cooperating in economic revitalization projects, because of the contacts that it has, and because of the presence in Portugal of a large Angolan community which, as no one today is unaware, has inestimable value from a technical standpoint for helping to make a future effective government viable.

2909

CSO: 3442/61

BENGUELA YOUTH JOIN ARMED FORCES ON LARGE SCALE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 23 Oct 86 p 12

[Text] Benguela--The municipal and provincial reporting centers have registered a great influx of young people to join the Armed Forces, reflecting the success of the current Recruitment and Mobilization Campaign [CRM] in Benguela Province.

According to 1st Lt Victor Neto, "Laborin," political commissar of the Benguela Province CRM, in statements made to ANGOP [Angolan Press Agency], the success attained is also due to the larger number of pre-recruits, with the latter's integration.

He added that, at present, a series of political, recreational, and sports activities is under way with the pre-recruits, so as to encourage them to become involved in the lofty task assumed on behalf of the party, the fatherland, and the people.

In this connection, Victor Neto stressed the contribution made by the JMPLA [Youth of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]-Party Youth, the Angolan Women's Organization, and the Border Guard Troops of Angola, which have carried out constant activities with the pre-recruits, in addition to the cooperation and backing provided by the party and government agencies.

The political commissar of the Provincial CRM also disclosed that there are periodic screenings of revolutionary films, as well as political meetings, and debates on current issues.

In conclusion, he emphasized that the goals advocated during this phase of incorporation have already been set by the Defense Ministry.

2909

CSO: 3442/60

LUNDA-SUL TRANSPORT SHORTAGE HAMPERS DISTRIBUTION OF GOODS

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] Suarimo—The minister of internal trade, Adriano dos Santos Junior, remarked in Suarimo after his investigative visit to Lunda-Sul Province, that his ministry has not even managed to execute 30 percent of the hauling of goods bound for that province, owing to the difficulties involving transportation.

Adriano dos Santos Junior, who considered his visit important because it enabled him to learn about the concrete situation and to hear the province's problems, so that viable solutions might be found, told JORNAL DE ANGOLA that the Ministry of Internal Trade is bent on fulfilling the work schedule stipulated by higher authorities to improve the supplies to the population.

The head of the Internal Trade Ministry claimed that the instructions left in that province during his first visit in 1983 had not been fulfilled. According to Adriano dos Santos Junior, that lack of fulfillment was due to constant shifts in that sector's officials and cadres in Lunda-Sul Province.

As for the transportation of goods to Lunda-Sul from the source of supply (Luanda), that leader stressed that, in addition to the politico-military situation, the roads are not in good condition and, moreover, the rolling stock is meager for accommodating the amount of freight to be transported. He noted that joint efforts are under way between MINCI [Ministry of Internal Trade] and the Ministry of Transportation to overcome this situation.

With regard to this issue, Adriano dos Santos claimed that the greatest heed has been given to the transportation of foodstuffs, as a priority. "We can wear the same clothes every day, but we cannot be left without food," he remarked in this connection.

The head of the Internal Trade Ministry added: "With the change in the situation and greater organization, Lunda-Sul will be far better supplied than it is at present."

Concerning the marketing in the rural areas, Adriano dos Santos Junior emphasized that MINCI's response capacity with regard to productive peasants is still minor, because "we have, in general, been unsuccessful in accommodating

the habits and requirements of each region." In view of this, according to that leader, the marketing plan for the rural area established by higher authorities has begun to be decentralized.

The new supply system was also discussed by the minister of internal trade. "The method proved that, everywhere, when there is a crisis, there are no supplies. The new system for supplies is a rational method of distribution, avoiding all those disagreeable situations which were experienced at other times. It has served as guidance for the method of distribution and consumption, and hence it has been a total success, from Cabinda to Cunene."

Also with regard to this matter, Adriano dos Santos Junior declared that the fundamental goal has not been attained, namely, the achievement of equitable distribution based on the family group, despite the fact that the "queues" have been terminated.

The minister of internal trade explained this phenomenon by stating: "Today, we are witnessing a single person receiving the same amount of goods as a head of a family. This is bad," he remarked.

In conclusion, Adriano dos Santos Junior observed that the second phase of the supply system will go into effect in each province based on the status of the control of consumers, transportation, and concrete organizations.

2909

CSO: 3442/60

LUNDA-SUL EXPERIENCING SHORTAGE OF TRANSPORTATION

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 28 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] As in many parts of the world, transportation in Lunda-Sul Province is the heart of all the areas of social existence, devoted not only to the carrying of cargo and passengers, but also to ensuring communications, the maintenance and repair of facilities, the training of drivers, etc., which obviously constitute fundamental elements for the good conservation of the rolling stock that the ETP [Provincial Transportation Enterprise] in Lunda-Sul has available, which is already in short supply. In fact, as is general knowledge, the major problem that the province is experiencing is the lack of heavy transportation from Luanda itself, to guarantee the work done in the various parts of the province, where the presence of transport facilities, not only in sufficient quantity but also with the capacity to meet the demands and requirements, is extremely essential.

As JORNAL DE ANGOLA learned from Pedro Henrique Sandungo, the provincial transportation delegate, the sector transported nearly 738 tons of various cargo and 27,800 passengers last year, in activities carried out with enterprises covered by it.

During the same period, that sector transported 32,452 kilograms of goods and 22,943 passengers, using air facilities.

As for the first half of this year, according to Pedro Sandungo, nearly 414 tons of various cargo were moved, while 11,470 passengers were carried by highway facilities, and 16,298 by road transport.

Also during the first half of this year, the transportation sector in Lunda-Sul contributed the sum of 290,000 kwanzas to the General State Budget [OGE]. In this regard, the provincial transportation delegate noted: "It is difficult to find a difference in the amount of the profits accrued, because the income of the enterprises included has a deficit. The only enterprise that has contributed to the OGE is Manauto."

With 15 long-distance vehicles having an extraction capacity of 194 tons, the transportation sector in Lunda-Sul is attempting to recover the old ones, so as to enlarge its fleet; because only nine of the 15 vehicles are operating, in addition to 29 buses, only four of which are in circulation.

In this connection, steps are being taken to create a local plan. This plan is aimed at recovering the large number of vehicles that have been out of service for some time. Three long-distance trucks have already been recovered.

A team of technicians from the GUEDAL enterprise recently visited this province to observe "on the spot" the damage to the Mercedes buses, so as to undertake the respective recovery.

Nearly 246 workers are employed in that sector, and the difficulties confronted stem from the meager truck fleet, the lack of supplies of spare parts, fuel, and lubricants, and the shortage of skilled workers; despite the work that has been done in connection with the recovery of the existing capacity and the occupational improvement of some cadres.

The non-payment of debts and for services rendered, on the part of users, was cited by Pedro Sandungo as another major problem that has particularly hampered the execution of several orders by the Lunda-Sul transportation sector.

2909

CSO: 3442/63

MEASURES ADOPTED TO IMPROVE TRADE IN UIJE

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 17 Oct 86 p 3

[Text] Uije--The meeting of the Expanded Administration Consultative Council of the Uije Province Internal Trade Delegation which took place in the municipality of Negage concluded with the making of major decisions aimed at improving the commercial activity in the province.

The participants in the meeting decided to create groups of peasant cooperatives and associations, as well as establishing a protocol between Egromista of Uije and Namibe Province to supply the population with dried fish.

The MINCI [Ministry of Internal Trade] provincial delegation also recommended the daily delivery of goods to the enterprises associated with the sector, namely, the commercial administration, and the undertaking of a survey of the private commercial system.

The participants in the meeting also cautioned the internal trade municipal delegates about the disorderly issuance of credentials given to private merchants, calling for the creation of the first tourist center in the municipality of Negage within 90 days.

Preparatory Meeting for BPV Conference

The meeting of the provincial preparatory commission for the first national conference of the People's Vigilance Brigades [BPV], which took place in this town, ended with the recommendation to publicize and study the convocation for the BPV's first national conference, on all levels.

During the meeting, the participants were also informed about the instructions from the national commission and the propaganda plan supporting the conference. The work was directed by the BPV provincial coordinator, Domingos Mutaleno.

Peasants Association

The municipal commissar of Bungo, David Lumueno, visited the Patrice Lumumba peasants association in this locality to be informed of its degree of organization and operation.

With that association, David Lumueno conveyed to the peasants the resolutions emerging from the first meeting of organized peasants, advocating an increase in agricultural and livestock production.

Meanwhile, the first secretary of the Maquila do Zombo Municipal Committee of the MPLA-Labor Party, Nicolau das Neves, met recently with church leaders, with whom he discussed the secular nature of the Angolan state.

2909

CSO: 3442/62

SONANGOL'S CONTRIBUTION TO COUNTRY'S ECONOMY VIEWED

Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 19 Oct 86 p 2

[Text] Lubango--Last year, the provincial delegation of the Angolan Fuel Company (SONANGOL) collected for the general state budget the sum of 272,399,000.00 kwanzas, for the first half, and, during the same period this year, the sum of 245,033,000.00 kwanzas.

That report, provided to JORNAL DE ANGOLA in this town by the aforementioned company's provincial delegate, Rui Lage, noted that this contribution was due to the sale of over 213 tons of gas, 450 cubic meters of gasoline, 260 cubic meters of petroleum, 470 cubic meters of gas oil, 86 tons of fuel oil, and 13 tons of lubricants; reflecting an effort to meet the needs of the province for inflammable products, the procurement of which during recent months has not shown great intensity.

According to Rui Lage, the present difficulties of the company which he directs, comprising a barrier to the progress of daily activities, are due to the lack of spare parts and replacement materials, particularly for the vehicles distributing fuel and those for supply stations, as well as the inadequate supply of lubricants and transportation facilities from Luanda. Also constituting an obstacle is the access to fuel consumption centers, owing to the poor condition of the roads, as well as the shortage of qualified cadres, both for the bureaucratic area and the technical one, among others.

However, that provincial official noted that, to minimize those obstacles, they are resorting to direct imports from outside of the country, and the general management has assumed responsibility for leasing barges to remove the product. SONANGOL's provincial delegate remarked: "As for the status of the cadres, we are engaged in recruiting them; and, insofar as the roads are concerned, it is all beyond our potential."

On the other hand, he considered as improvements that have occurred the increase in the number of supply stations and service stations, as well as the reopening of three others, and the quality of the service that his workers have been providing in the course of the latter. The introduction of the new type of gas container on the market, as well as the substantial regularity of its demand and distribution, and that of petroleum in the municipality of Lubango and its vicinity, also received Rui Lage's appreciation and praise, for the selfless work and effort.

Commenting on the social benefits that have benefited the workers from the SONANGOL delegation, he remarked that, at present, there is a vehicle used solely for home to business service and vice-versa; and that they are currently engaged in providing other stipulated items, such as the monthly supply of foodstuffs and industrial goods, as well as the creation of a medical station, a dining hall, and a social center.

2909

CSO: 3442/62

BRIEFS

SPAIN DONATES FLOUR--A donation consisting of 1,500 tons of wheat flour was turned over to our authorities by the Spanish Government as food assistance offered to Angola by the Kingdom of Spain. The ceremony to deliver the gift took place yesterday in the port of Luanda. Present representing Spain was the charge d'affaires from that country's embassy in Angola, Alberto Moreno; and, representing Angola, the head of the office for Western countries of the State Secretariat of Cooperation, Simao Silva, and the general director of Transapro, Victor de Magalhaes. According to sources associated with Transapro, an enterprise responsible for transporting and supplying goods, the flour that has been received will be distributed among the bakeries of Luanda Province. The charge d'affaires from the Embassy of Spain, Alberto Moreno, told the press that his country has for several years provided our country with food assistance and noted that this contribution would be diversified in the future. The Angolan officials in attendance expressed appreciation for the act of the Spanish Government, which reflects the relations that exist between the two countries. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Oct 86 p 12] 2909

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS APPOINTED--Sumbe--The provincial commissar of Kuanza-Sul, Ramos da Cruz, relieved the municipal commissars of Kilenda and Porto Amboim, Manuel Abrantes Junior and Paulo da Conceicao Cunha respectively, for the benefit of the service. In a dispatch recently made public in this town, the commissar of Kuanza-Sul named the following to the same positions: Armando Fernando da Silva Kimbundo, for municipal commissar of Kilenda, and Manuel Joaquim Antonio, to Porto Amboim. Meanwhile, in another dispatch, Ramos da Cruz appointed Joao Batista Bastos Diogo to the post of municipal commissar of Seles. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 19 Oct 86 p 2] 2909

BULGARIAN DELEGATION VISITS--Yesterday morning, a delegation from the Communist Party of Bulgaria (PCB) which has been in Angola for several days at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party visited the Karl Marx-Makarenko Student Complex. During the course of the visit, the group, headed by the assistant director of ideological policy of the Communist Party of Bulgaria, Todor Gantchev, held a meeting with the management of that educational establishment and with instructors of Bulgarian nationality engaged in their teaching activity there. The office of civil construction projects, the textbook workshop, the chemistry, electricity, and metallurgical laboratories, and the amateur studio of Angolan National Radio at the Karl Marx-Makarenko Complex were carefully assessed by

the visiting delegation, which is leaving the country today, bound for the People's Republic of Mozambique. The Bulgarian group was accompanied by Candido Isaac, a division chief from the Department of Political and Ideological Education (DEPI) of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, and Francisco Chiuissa, secretary of the Luanda party's Provincial Committee for the Ideological Area. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 19 Oct 86 p 1] 2909

BPV MEMBERSHIP IN CUNENE--Castanheira de Pera--The rank and file structures of the People's Vigilance Brigades (BPV) in Cunene Province are engaged in an assembly process aimed at discussing the draft proposition on autonomy at this level. The process began on Thursday in Castanheira de Pera, with the first assembly associated with the municipality of Cuanhama, due to continue until February of next year. If this draft is approved throughout the country, it is stressed, that will make it possible to dissociate the BPV from the provincial commissariats. The process is taking place based on the slogan, "vigilance brigades, strength of the people in the defense of the revolution." At the present time, Cunene Province has 117,000 brigade members, 930 of whom are women. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 28 Oct 86 p 3] 2909

COOPERATION AGREEMENT WITH GHANA--A few days ago, in Accra, Angola and Ghana signed an agreement for cooperation in the areas of agriculture, industry, energy, air transport, and cadre training. The accords were signed at the conclusion of the work of the third session of the joint Angolan-Ghanaian cooperation commission meeting in Accra. The Angolan delegation, which returned to the country on Wednesday, was headed by the minister of agriculture and member of the MPLA-Labor Party Central Committee, Evaristo Domingos, "Kimba," and included heads of various ministries and of the National Stock Exchange Institute. During his stay in Accra, Evaristo, "Kimba," was received by the Ghanaian head of state, Jerry Rawlings, with whom he discussed matters relating to the cooperation between the two countries and the prevailing situation in Southern Africa. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Oct 86 p 12] 2909

ENLISTMENT IN LUBANGO--On Tuesday, 121 youths reported in the municipality of Quilengues (180 kilometers north of Lubango) to join the armed services. The presiding party official praised the youths' free enterprise, and addressed words of encouragement to them, making them sense the need to defend the revolution's conquests. The population of Quilengues is approximately 100,000-150,000 inhabitants, whose activity is essentially agricultural. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Oct 86 p 3] 2909

SOCIAL EMULATION RECOMMENDED--For 4 days last week, political commissars from all echelons and units of the fifth politico-military region (Huila, Namibe, and Cunene) met in Castanheira de Pera, for the ninth seminar of this region's political directorate. A total of 18 decisions were taken from the seminar, which was directed by the chief of the region's political directorate, Maj Egidio de Sousa e Santos, "Disciplina," one of which expressed the desire of the political commissars to continue engaging in their work based on the instructions from the Second Congress and from the plenaries of the MPLA-Labor Party's Central Committee. The seminar attendees also decided to guarantee that no combatant would remain outside the party's influence, to begin action that will make it possible to give political training courses in Marxism-Leninism to combatants, civilian workers, and those in custody, and also to establish the socialist emulation system among the troops. They also decided, as a conclusion, to promote the creation of dance, dramatic, and music groups, and to foster action leading to the imposition of the spirit of patriotism

among the children recruited into the Pioneers Organization, through interest clubs and others. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 22 Oct 86 p 3] 2909

OFFICIALS APPOINTED IN MALANJE--Malanje--In connection with government relations involving this province, Lt Col Joao Ernesto dos Santos, "Liberdade," a member of the party's Central Committee and provincial commissar of Malanje, recently swore in five new members of the state's apparatus for the province in that city. On this occasion, Francisco Agostinho Nzunga, Jorge Muambo, and Oliveira Mulemba were sworn in for the offices of municipal commissar of Cambundi-Catembo and of Kirima, and assistant for Marimba, respectively. Pedro Luis Viriato and Custodio Joao Cordeiro Neto were also sworn in for the posts of director of community services and of tourism and hotel services, respectively. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 22 Oct 86 p 3] 2909

ZAIRIAN BORDER OPENED--(AIM)--The authorities in the Angolan province of Lunda-Norte and the Zairian region of Kasai Occidental met in the city of Tshikapa in Zaire last weekend to negotiate the signing of an agreement on the opening of the crossing points at the frontier. Crossing points are to be established in the localities of Kissanga in Angola and Kamakelesa in Zaire. Sources in Zaire revealed that the chiefs of state Jose Eduardo dos Santos of Angola and Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire, participated in the negotiations on the opening of these frontier posts. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 1 Dec 86 p 5] 5157

NEW RANKS CREATED--The People's Assembly of the RPA which was recently elected has established four levels in the general officers' category: general of the army, colonel general, major general and lieutenant general. Only the president of the republic will hold the first rank, and only the minister of defense will hold the second. The CEM, Antonio Franca, Political Director Magalhaes Paiva and Minister of Interior Alexandre Rodrigues will hold the third rank. All of these individuals are regarded as close to the president, which is not the case for the fourth level. This rank will be held by individuals ranging from Iko Carreira (transferred to the embassy in Algiers) and Jose Xieto (who was transferred from Moscow to Belgrade because of disagreements with the Soviets) to four other individuals whose low level of training has led to criticism and comments by the younger FAPLA officers. [Text] [Lisbon SEMANARIO in Portuguese 13 Dec 86 p 64] 5157

NORTH KOREANS IN AFRICA--London--From what has been learned from circles close to experts on African affairs in this city, the number of North Koreans in Angola and Mozambique who have reached this country via Zimbabwe is increasing. There are at present about 4,000 North Koreans in Angola as military cooperative personnel. Five doctors, four engineers, 10 nurses, a psychologist, a psychiatrist, six cooks and six cooks' assistants are included. They are concentrated in Negage and Maquela and in the province of Huambo, in the North and South, respectively. [Excerpt] [Lisbon TEMPO in Portuguese 6 Nov 86 p 23] 5157

CSO:3442/55

PROPOSED BUDGET DEBATED AT NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Ouagadougou CARREFOUR AFRICAINE in French 19 Dec 86 pp 8-10

[Article by L.D.Z.: "Recovery Amidst Austerity"]

[Text] The national conference on the budget was held on 12 and 13 December 1986 at the People's Center in Ouagadougou. All of Burkina's 30 provinces were represented at the conference and debated the proposed budget drafted and presented by the Ministries of the Budget and Financial Resources. A total of some 400 delegates from all corners of the country participated in the great debate, which, all things considered, is "an administrative, but above all, a political act."

The presence of the many comrades at the People's Center on 12 and 13 December to participate in the discussions, to hear and obtain information on the financial life of our country bears witness to the fact that they have all understood the importance of the national budget, which must be "an instrument of the national economy," especially in the well-defined context of the First 5-Year People's Development Plan. Furthermore, is the budget policy not, as the budget minister emphasized, "a set of coherent measures aimed at achieving a certain balance"?

The massive presence of militants at this second national conference on the budget also means that the great majority of the people have understood that putting the budget together is the business of each and every Burkinabe.

The proposed budget for the 1987 fiscal year was the fruit of long preparation. Since practically mid 1986, the Ministries of the Budget and Financial Resources have worked behind the scenes but with determination in cooperation with the DAF of the other ministries. The proposed budget was therefore "a synthesis of spending proposals of the various ministries and institutions readjusted in terms of anticipated receipts."

In submitting the proposed government budget for the people's evaluation, Comrade Adele Ouedraogo reminded them of the difficult international and national economic and financial context. The international situation is without question marked by "a slowdown in growth, an uncontrolled fluctuation of the price of foreign exchange, a relative movement of deflation, a worsening of unemployment and a resurgence of protectionism." Whence the drop in public aid

to development and a deterioration in the terms of trade. On the national level, despite the recovery registered during the first 10 months of 1986, the rate of growth, which was 2.1 percent between 1979 and 1982, experienced a drop of .4 percent between 1982 and 1984. There has also been a disturbing drop in the price of raw materials and a certain slump in the public, para-public and private sectors in 1986. This is a handicap for the government with respect to public finances. In addition, there is the disastrous situation inherited by the CNR [National Council of the Revolution], a situation due to carelessness in evaluating receipts and expenditures, a lack of strictness in carrying out the budget and a lack of control over budget operations.

This difficult national and international economic and financial context therefore required that the Burkinabe people, in keeping with their political resolution to rely on their own strength, put together a truthful budget.

Capt Thomas Sankara, comrade president of the CNR and Faso, expressed this concern at the opening of the conference: "In order to emerge from the impasse today, we must take a serious attitude toward the budget, avoiding situations of camouflage. We must examine spending realistically."

Actually, following the work of the budget committee, one could note the great gap between the initial estimates of anticipated receipts: 75,692,000,000 CFA francs, and proposed expenditures: 124,033,000,000 francs, a difference of 48,341,000,000 CFA francs.

The Cabinet, expanded to include the experts and meeting on 5 December to define the main lines of the budget, reduced the deficit to 17 billion CFA francs.

At the opening session of the second national conference on the budget, the president asked all persons present to answer the following three questions:

- 1 -- Yes or no, do you approve of the proposed receipts as presented by the ministers of the budget and financial resources?
- 2 -- Yes or no, do you approve of the proposed spending as presented?
- 3 -- If our spending goes beyond our receipts, what solutions do you propose? Every Burkinabe must be an author, a protagonist in the budget.

The president of Faso rejected facile solutions aimed at turning to other countries at the slightest deficit and also castigated the lack of budgetary discipline and waste. In order to enable conference participants to examine the proposed budget rapidly and judiciously, the Receipts Committee and the Spending Committee were set up. They worked throughout the night and finally reduced the deficit from 17 to 12 billion. The Receipts Committee recommended improvement in the collection of taxes. It also proposed the institution of new taxes to compensate for budgetary distortion. The Spending Committee proposed that there be no reduction in spending relative to the debt, charges and amortization so as to respect our commitments to our partners. It also recommended responsible and strict management of personnel and government

holdings. For the sake of the record, spending on personnel increased 261 percent in the past 10 years and the debt 2,480 percent during that same period.

In putting these three questions to participants in the second national conference on the budget, Capt Thomas Sankara said that every person must respond while saying to himself that the answers would be put into practice today and throughout 1987, for this budget must not be just a temporary solution. In 1987, we must think of 1988 and the following years, as well as the First 5-Year Plan. "Every time that we receive our salary and spend that money, we must realize that 12 billion francs remain to be found," the president of Faso warned at the conclusion of his closing address.

And, as the minister of the budget emphasized in presenting his proposals, "The government budget must henceforth be an instrument of national development. That is why the purpose of the 1987 budget will be to revive economic activity, which will result in an increase in purchasing power or "measures to consolidate income, an increase in productive capacities (optimum mobilization of available resources), "strict allocation of national resources...for our budget is intended to be and must be a budget of action and not blockage."

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CSO: 3419/51

ORGANIZATION OF COMMERCIAL SECTORS DISCUSSED

Interest Groups Minister's Explanation

Ouagadougou SIDWAYA in French 18 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by S. Zerbo]

[Text] Yesterday afternoon, the national press met with the minister of commerce and people's supply, Mamadou Toure, for a report on the Economic Interest Group (GIE), followed by a miniconference. The minister's report essentially dealt with the topic, "The GIE and Its Impact on the Commercial Sector" in our country. Its purpose was to enlighten public opinion and mainly economic operators, making it possible to halt any spiteful rumors concerning the GIE. Before turning to the GIE specifically, Toure presented for the press a review of the situation in Burkina's commercial sector. He pointed out that even if it is true that over 90 percent of our population practices agriculture, it is also true that a substantial percentage of Burkinabe engage in some type of commercial activity. One example relating to the history of commerce was given, the Mossi salesmen from colonial times. Over the years and up to the present time, that activity has evolved, but has stagnated to a certain extent for various reasons. Those reasons are linked, among other reasons, to the very nature of traditional commerce, the minister of commerce emphasized. That commerce, like handicrafts, is unorganized and constitutes an informal sector made up of merchants or individual establishments generally headed by families. Toure then posed this question: "At a time when our countries are setting up rational structures to manage their economies, is it conceivable to maintain archaic and anachronistic working methods as observed in the private sector?" The answer was a resounding "No!" Toure added that small enterprises have a very important role in the formation of the GNP (gross national product), although gathering information about them is very difficult. Thus, without meddling too much in the life of such activities, our country's Revolutionary Government has suggested that the latter organize and has given complete latitude to the economic operators involved to define the framework they deem the most appropriate. The minister then defined the objectives of such an organization of commercial activities. On the macroeconomic level, he would strive for an organization of the commercial sector in its unstructured portion (traditional commerce). In addition, the GIE permits a rationalization of commercial activity, this in order to respond to the needs of a modern economy whose evolution in all sectors should be able to be mastered thanks to the quantitative

data that are available and reliable, Toure hinted. From the microeconomic standpoint, he stressed the fact that organization will help improve the profitability of commercial activity and the economic operators working in the sector.

The minister of trade let it be understood that the GIE is not an invention of the government, but that it is a form of organization of the commercial sector that corresponds to the current phase of our economy, chosen by the economic operators themselves.

This will help facilitate plans and the planning policies of the Ministry of Commerce and the People's Supply, as well as of all departments entrusted with promoting and organizing the commercial sector. With respect to the advantages that the GIE gives merchants themselves, the minister of commerce said they are numerous and include a better mastery of distribution circuits, the possibility of exercising a protected profession sheltered from the erratic disturbances of occasional merchants.

Following this report, Toure answered questions from the press. SIDWAYA will publish in their entirety the remarks made at the press conference in its coming editions.

Establishing Decree

Ouagadougou SIDWAYA in French 15 Dec 86 p 4

[Decree No ANIV176 CNR BF [National Council of the Revolution, Burkina Faso] concerning the creation of Economic Interest Groups in 11 Branches of the Commercial Sector in Burkina Faso]

[Text] The President of Faso:

Given the proclamation of 4 August 1983;

Given Order No 83-001/CNR of 4 August 1983 concerning creation of the National Council of the Revolution;

Given Kiti No ANIV026/CNR/BF of 29 August 1986 concerning the makeup of the Revolutionary Government of Burkina Faso;

Given Zatu No 86-009/CNR/PRES of 29 February 1986 concerning the institution of the category of Economic Interest Groups; and

Given the decision dated 26 August 1985 of the Council of General Coordinators of Faso creating the proposed central market of Ouagadougou;

The Cabinet, at its 19 November 1986 meeting, hereby pronounces:

Article 1. Economic Interest Groups are hereby set up in Burkina Faso in the 11 nonrestrictive branches of the commercial sector, as listed below, endowed with legal status: 1. Construction materials 2. Books, paper, office products and printing 3. Grains, wine-related products 4. Food 5. Cycles, motorcycles and their spare parts and tires 6. Electricity, electronics, radio, cold storage, photography, cinema, music 7. Clothing, cosmetics, textiles, linens, secondhand clothes 8. Medicines, hardware, household goods, hygiene and toiletries, maintenance 9. Furniture, interior decoration 10. Toys, games, recreation, sports 11. Equipment, agricultural products, livestock

Article 2. Each of these Economic Interest Groups has the purpose of facilitating the development of the economic activity of its members and increasing its results, in short, all operations permitting the accomplishment of the objective pursued within its own limitations. This goal will be completed in the agreement of parties in order to state the specificity of each group.

Article 3. Members of the Economic Interest Groups set up with capital are: individual economic operators or companies in the private sector as defined by the regulation of the profession of merchant in Burkina Faso, one of whose activities is connected with the purpose of one of the groups or related to it by assimilation given the nature of the products managed. A raabo of the minister of commerce and people's supply will specify the nomenclature.

Article 4. Terms for the organization, management and supervision of the above Economic Interest Groups will be established by statutes and, if needed, completed by bylaws.

Article 5. The ministers of commerce and people's supply, financial resource and economic promotion are responsible, individually and collectively, for execution of this decree, which will be published in LE JOURNAL OFFICIEL DU FASO.

Our nation or death; we shall overcome!

Ouagadougou, 5 December 1986
Capt Thomas Sankara

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CIVIL AVIATION DIRECTOR DISCUSSES PLANS

Ouagadougou SIDWAYA in French 3 Dec 86 pp 5, 9

[Interview with Sankara Managa Bamba, Civil Aviation director; date and place not given]

[Text] On the occasion of the meeting of the committee of ministers responsible for overseeing ASECNA [Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar], starting on 6 December in Ouagadougou, SIDWAYA met with the director of Civil Aviation (a poorly known department), Sankara Managa Bamba, an expert on air law. Sankara defined the role of civil aviation, its organization and its political, economic and commercial importance in a landlocked country such as Burkina Faso.

[Question] Can you tell us something about the airline companies?

[Answer] Alongside ASECNA are the airline companies, which provide another link in the DAC [Civil Aviation Directorate]. They provide air transportation, a purely commercial operation that brings passengers and goods together with the aviation companies. But this does not take place in a disorganized framework because our country has what is called the traffic rights portfolio. It is the task of the DAC to manage that traffic rights portfolio, to ensure that the use of that portfolio does not create bottlenecks. One concrete example:

We said that it was difficult, at the present time, to give traffic rights to Aeroflot over Bamako, despite the undeniable quality of our political relations with the Soviet Union. That is something that is not completely understood in certain circles. It is very simple. It is a commercial problem. Traffic between Bamako and Ouagadougou is so small that if we put in Air Afrique, Air Burkina and Aeroflot, then all three companies will close their doors, when our prime task is to open up the country.

[Question] Can you tell us more about this specific aspect of opening up the country?

[Answer] It is up to us to do it. It will depend on the establishment of a policy encouraging the creation of traffic. But that depends on the level of economic development of our country. At the present time, we are engaging in talks with a number of countries and companies so that Burkina will have more

connections with the outside, within the framework of implementation of the policy of ending our isolation. But when the companies in question analyze traffic and conclude that the market is very small and that they cannot come in, then under such conditions, we are not talking the same language because for us, it is up to the companies, although the market is poor, to work the market and make it prosper. Experience has shown that despite the limitations of a market, when one comes in, that is already a factor that creates traffic. But the companies do not want to accept the transition, which is very costly.

[Question] What kind of relations does the Civil Aviation Directorate in Burkina have with the ICAO?

[Answer] Extremely important relations. To give you an idea, we receive from the ICAO every day nearly 2 to 3 kilos of document. They are not documents to file away, but to be studied. They are documents concerning which we must state Burkina's position on every tiny point. Civil aviation is essentially international and consequently, all countries must speak the same language. Every country fights to be a member of the ICAO board because the decisions made at that level have an enormous effect on the financial as well as technical level. I shall take one example concerning a stumbling block: the ILS (Instrument Landing System) and the MLS, a much more advanced system. Agreement had to be reached on that shift. It is a shift that costs our countries an enormous amount, while the Western nations have the means to install such equipment. Above all, they make those instruments.

[Question] Can we expect the Bobo airport to have such equipment?

[Answer] Actually, the runway at the Bobo airport will have the Category 2 ILS, like Ouaga, but not the MLS. The change will have to occur at the same time in all the countries because this is equipment that indicates the runway center line to airplanes in order to facilitate their landing and their horizontal level with respect to the runway because a plane landing in the middle of the runway risks ending up beyond it.

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CSO: 3419/51

GOVERNMENT REDRAWING ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES

Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 13 Dec 86 p 5

[Text] With the prospect of legislative elections next April the Comorian government has been redrawing electoral boundaries. The number of constituencies is to be increased by two in Grand Comoro and Anjouan, bringing the next parliament up to 42 seats, distributed as follows: 20 for Grand Comoro, 17 for Anjouan and five for Moheli, whose representatives remain unchanged in number. The two new constituencies in Grand Comoro are planned for the Hamahamet and the Badjini, the respective power bases of Mohamed Taki, the former chairman of the assembly now in self-imposed exile in Paris, and Said Hassan Said Hachim, a former minister of state who has become estranged from President Ahmed Abdallah. The government's plan is to give both of them problems at the next elections.

The proposals, which also provide for the election of substitute members of parliament, will be submitted for consideration to the island councils and the federal assembly during the current parliamentary session, which is the last of the present legislature.

Meanwhile the leader of the Union pour une Republique Democratique aux Comores, Mouzaoir Abdallah, stated in an interview with the Quotidien de la Reunion his intention to put up candidates in all three islands. He also said that "dialogue is possible" among all the various Comorian political groups and praised the role of a "link" being played at present by the Grand Mufti of the Comoros.

Also, the former minister for transport and tourism, Antoy Abdou, who was arrested on October 23 and held in the Patsy prison on Anjouan, was released on December 3 without charge or trial.

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FINANCE MINISTER ON AUSTERITY MEASURES

Djibouti LA NATION in French 13 Nov 86 pp 2-3

[Interview with Minister of Finance Mohamed Djama Elabe; date and place not given]

[Text] Since Thursday, 2 October 1986, the minutes of the Cabinet meeting have carried two new signatures, while two more are no longer affixed to the same ministerial titles. The shakeup has not failed to rouse questions as legitimate as they are far-fetched and rumors that only feed on silence.

LA NATION approached these officials, putting the questions that are on everyone's lips to them. This week, we are publishing the interview which the new minister of finance and national economy consented to grant us.

[Question] Mr Minister, it is a secret to no one that the Ministry of Finance and the National Economy, a key sector of national development, has long been an area of a critical lack of organization. Can one consider your recent appointment to head that department as an attempt by the government to rehabilitate the sector in order to get the declining national economy back on its feet?

[Answer] It is a very great honor for me to have been named by the president to occupy the post of minister of finance and national economy. A few days ago, as you know, I was minister of national education and I therefore ask you to give me the time I need to make an objective analysis of the situation existing in my new ministry. The thrust of your first question does not escape me, but if you will allow me, I believe that it would be useful, before answering other questions, to recall what Djibouti's economic life over the past 10 years has been.

Increasingly Tight Budgets

Following its accession to independence in June 1977, the Republic of Djibouti received foreign aid for investment, mainly in the form of gifts from friendly countries. Major projects of all kinds were completed. It was in fact necessary to open the doors of the schools to all our young people, to set up the infrastructures needed for proper operation of public enterprises, ministries and services, in a word, launch a young nation living in a difficult political, economic and social context, bringing all the weight of the effort to bear on development.

All aid was injected into investment projects that themselves generated work and therefore, revenue for our people, but also resources for the budget. You know that our service economy alone produces the revenue for the operating budget. All the new ministries and services set up since independence have survived thanks to those receipts.

It is also worthwhile to recall that the international inflation that prevailed during the early years enabled the government's budget, based on our fiscal system applied to duties on goods coming into the country and the weakness of the American dollar compared with the currencies of exporter countries, to register substantial unearned increments in receipts. They also made it possible to hire more personnel for the administration and provide the minimum material means enabling it to operate correctly.

However, as early as 1980-1981, the international context began to change and economic factors shifted unfavorably for Djibouti. Aid decreased and the American dollar, which, I would remind you, is linked to our Djibouti franc by a fixed parity, has seen its rate climb and nearly triple in 5 years. In the beginning, government reserves made it possible to finance the budget's chronic deficit.

In fact, at no time have our own resources enabled us to finance the government's entire operating budget. The investment program continues to be carried out in accordance with the objectives set by the government under the wise leadership of the president. Moreover, as early as 1982, a large part of the spending of the National Army has been taken over by the government's budget. One should emphasize that credits granted to the National Armed Forces have remained at the same level in the last 10 years.

The international economic stagnation has had the greatest impact on the Republic of Djibouti. Our small economic margins and our reduced financial reserves create difficulties forcing us to draft increasingly tight budgets, year after year.

At the present time, there is in fact an economic decline that is visible in all sectors: commerce, public works, construction, and so on. There is less work and our people are suffering. The government is aware of these circumstances and the Ministry of Finance and National Economy, which I now head, will use all the means placed at its disposal to attenuate the current difficulties and get the national economy back on its feet as soon as possible.

Loyal to the Government

[Question] What is the current state of the country's finances?

[Answer] This year, 1986, is a difficult year for the budget. Revenue is down and the government was forced in May to reduce the administration's operating credits by 15 percent and to set forth other economy measures that will unfortunately be inadequate to balance the budget. In order to achieve such a balance (receipts equaling spending), foreign aid will be insufficient and we shall again have to resort to the government's reserve funds, whose level has constantly dropped in the past several years.

I personally helped draft the 1987 budget and as you can see, in a few weeks, the government's standard of living will be considerably reduced. Before - informing the government, I cannot reveal what measures were taken, but my aim is for the government to live within its means and reserve foreign aid (gifts and loans) for productive investments.

[Question] What are the Ministry of Finance's major problems?

[Answer] In the Ministry of Finance, nothing is ever sure ahead of time. It will be thanks to the steadfast nature of our action, the persistence and loyalty of our officials in doing their duty that our mission will be successful. After speaking with them, I believe they are persuaded of the essential role they must play. I hope there will be a team spirit in my ministry at all levels and that the interests of the government will be fairly protected at all times and in all places.

Taxpayers will pay all duties and taxes they owe the government, not one franc less, but not one more either. Some always owe the government money. They are well-known and should pay their arrears soon.

Regarding all departments, absenteeism and administrative delays will be combatted. Many young people are graduating and are willing to take the places of faltering civil servants who not only have rights, but duties as well. I shall do my best to make them understand this.

In addition, I am particularly anxious for information to circulate between the government and those governed. Every taxpayer must be able to be informed and helped by our employees in their administrative transactions. Every department head must teach his personnel the duty of strictness, but also a sense of public relations. Defending the government's interests is applicable in the area of collecting budget receipts, but also -- and I am most anxious about this -- in the use of public funds, a sacred trust.

The timeliness of spending and its supervision are two key words that must never be lost sight of by officials in departments receiving budgetary credits. I shall see to this personally.

The difficult phase we are now going through because of the highly unfavorable circumstances must be endured without too much damage if each of us takes his work seriously and remains loyal to the government.

Country's Image and Reputation

[Question] Nearly 10 years after independence, the national economy has difficulties in taking off and the ambition of making Djibouti a financial hub in the region seems more and more to be an illusion. Thus, given the experience of this decade, what is the government's new strategy to get our economy out of its impasse?

[Answer] Djibouti, an international financial market place: Is this an ambition or an illusion? I might add: Is it a reality? The fact is that

Djibouti is now and has for a long time been an important banking center. Several international banking firms of French, Anglo-Saxon and Arab origin are already represented here in the form of subsidiaries or participation. Banks of neighboring countries are also established here. All have invested and continue to invest in the Republic of Djibouti and maintain part of their profits here.

The banking system we find here goes far beyond the mere needs of the local economy. One of its *raison d'être* is its openness to the regional economy. Based on a solid currency, the Djibouti franc, and total freedom of exchange, it drains off foreign deposits and participates actively in the financing of regional commerce. Djibouti is therefore an international financial market. This is important but does not fully satisfy our ambitions. Work remains to be done, but an international financial center cannot be founded by decree! It is a difficult wager but it is not lost.

Nor must one forget that we arrived on the market as a young nation in a troubled region. These two traits were somewhat negative. But in 10 years, we have given of our country the proper image of an area of peace and stability. This is an important aspect.

We also arrived at a time when the boom of the big financial centers had slowed down. This tightening had not been anticipated and at the present time, international banks are experiencing serious difficulties, with the ebb of the petrodollars. Financial centers in the Middle East are experiencing a recession; the difficulties of debtor countries worry creditors and affect volumes handled. In such a context, our ambitions must remain modest, but are still well-founded because the conditions favoring the development of the Djibouti market are still there.

First of all, on the institutional and regulatory level, few places are so open: The total freedom of exchange and complete convertibility of the Djibouti franc are realities never contradicted by the facts. The government is particularly concerned about this. Banking activity is governed by clear legislation; the framework established in 1979 by the bylaws of the National Bank of Djibouti was spelled out and clarified in February 1985. While strict because it is a matter of guaranteeing the security and reputation of our financial center, the rules of the game are sufficiently open. The National Bank, which has the means of carrying out its mission, is responsible for overseeing application of the rules. It does so and will continue to do so in the same spirit of strictness and openness. Regulation of companies in the free zone and above all, a very liberal investment code and taxation encouraging financial operations make Djibouti a real fiscal paradise.

Materially speaking, few financial centers in the region provide access to international telecommunications networks with the quality we offer. Moreover, served by this system, our geographic position in a time zone halfway between the Far East and America can give us a stopping place between the two. Finally, there is no need to dwell on the accommodating infrastructures of the city of Djibouti.

Without entering into the technical details, we can therefore see that the structure needed for development of the international financial center exists. We therefore have some reason to be ambitious and not to be satisfied with the current situation in which, I would repeat, the financial center already has a certain scope -- the average bank deposits exceeds 40 billion Djibouti francs and while the main banks handle all international operations, we still need establishments exclusively specializing in the field.

We must therefore continue our promotional efforts and take advantage of the opportunities that arise. However, we must also be very demanding: demanding with respect to the quality of the financial institutions. We cannot allow just anyone to come in. Moreover, the government has demonstrated this over a year ago by forcing a bank to shut down because it did not play by the rules. We must be demanding with ourselves because we still lack enough high-level and highly trained personnel. Our young people in the tertiary sector will have to make the necessary effort to acquire difficult technical training because there can be no lasting development without the active contribution of nationals.

We must be demanding with ourselves. The strictness, speed, competence and civic spirit of our administration and particularly of the financial administration which I head must be infallible because it is the administration that translates the will of the government into daily action. Any failing in dealing with international partners who are very demanding with respect to legal security can have catastrophic consequences on the country's image and reputation.

All Assets

[Question] You speak of difficulties taking off. To preserve our image, I would say that following a rapid ascent, we have reached a ceiling without yet achieving our cruising speed, meaning an adequate degree of autonomy.

[Answer] I shall not go back over the continuing international and regional difficulties that have greatly affected our activity. However, let us just observe that since independence, direct public investments have been substantial, creating jobs around them and maintaining very important business flow. The boom in construction, somewhat rapid in certain ways, bears this out.

At the present time, the 1984-1988 program is being carried out, totaling some \$290 million, over 5 billion Djibouti francs. The most important items concern road, port and airport infrastructures, production of energy and urban development. In large proportions, all of these operations were financed by outside aid, either gifts or with advantageous terms. The 1984-1988 program finds 90 percent of its resources in financing from friendly countries or international organizations. Such investments are indispensable in creating conditions favorable for development.

And yet, whatever the favorable nature of financing such operations, it is now necessary to pause, even if work remains to be done.

We can see, in fact, that:

The improvement in infrastructures by an extension of government holdings involves new operating and maintenance burdens without directly producing the resources needed for their financing.

Directly productive investments of an industrial or commercial nature were few and have not always been properly managed.

Private investments using national resources remained very low, as if people expected the government to take the place of entrepreneurs.

Finally, the burden of the foreign public debt, repayment of loans and the payment of interest will, if we are not careful, place a heavy load on public finances.

This is why emphasis must be placed on the mobilization and local use of national private savings, benefitting service activities which remain Djibouti's real vocation, from small or medium-size industries replacing imports to imports and agriculture.

In these fields, while private enterprise is slow to manifest itself, the government's position is clear. It reaffirms its attachment to the economic liberalism proclaimed in the law of economic orientation of May 1982.

Freedom of exchange and the broad possibilities offered by the investment framework and the free zone prove this determination.

Moreover, we are looking at development possibilities that could be offered by our membership in the Preferential Trade Zone of East and Southern Africa (ZEP) because the national market is much too narrow to permit industrial operations of considerable size.

Foreign promotional activities such as the one just conducted by the port in Paris or the Chamber of Commerce in Nairobi must be stepped up to make use of the funds so abundantly here.

Solid currency

[Question] In your opinion, what are the main causes of the chronic deficit in the national budget and how do you explain the gradual drying up of the Reserve Fund, which dropped from 10 billion Djibouti francs in 1981 to under 1.5 billion today?

[Answer] You have brought up the big drop in what is called the Reserve Fund. It is true; we have lost a large share of the reserves, but what is one to run into? May we be any poorer thereby? Certainly not. We can see those reserves, thousands of investments, equipment of all kinds throughout the country, constituting the indispensable framework for economic and social development. May we not have very substantial reserves some time ago, over 10 billion without? (more) at over half of the government's budget at the

time, it was because the foreign capital contributing to the creation of our nation could not be used immediately. As the projects for which they were earmarked were carried out, those financial masses were absorbed. Only a fraction of such reserves were used to finance the current operation of the government, at a time when the slowdown in the economy resulted in less fiscal revenue than anticipated.

After adaptation to this new situation, strict application of the rule of a balanced budget should exclude any use of reserves to cover operating expenses.

Our goal is to rebuild the fund to the level of about a month of current spending in order to meet any gaps between spending and revenue in the future.

Finally, we shall do everything to limit government spending to the amount of its own resources, reserving outside aid to finance investments. This is a prime goal. Concerning public reserves, when one speaks about a reserve fund, this is not a monetary reserve that is a completely distinct entity. The peculiar feature of the Djibouti franc is that it is attached to the American dollar by a fixed parity and it has complete cover of bills and currency in circulation. This means that the National Bank has assets in dollars, in the government's name, strictly equaling the counter value of the notes and coins issued. This is a legal obligation that is strictly respected and that contributes to the solidity of our currency. Actually, this cover is even slightly higher than money in circulation.

Since we are speaking of currency, one might recall that the monetary mass is not solely made up of notes and coins in circulation, representing nearly 8 billion Djibouti francs. It is also made up of deposits in banks on the order of 22 to 25 billion Djibouti francs. These deposits have as their main counterparts the credits distributed by local banks and net foreign exchange income. For its part, the Central Bank does not create script by not refinancing the tertiary sector. The cover of that monetary mass is, whatever may have been said, satisfactory because it is over 50 percent, without considering the additional cover constituted by assets in special drawing rights (SDR) and other lines of credit which the national financial system has.

Faithfully Serving the Nation

[Question] For some time now, the government has initiated some austerity in the country in order to cut useless spending. Are there other measures of that nature planned by the government? What decisions will it take to increase government revenue?

[Answer] I told you that the austerity measures taken by the government in 1987 would be very harsh, even very restrictive for small government departments whose open credits are very low. Wait a few weeks and you will see that the government does not intend to spend public monies uselessly. Strictness and austerity will be the key words of budget management for 1987.

Regarding government receipts, no new fiscal measure is planned for the 1987 budget. On the contrary, I believe that fiscal pressure in the Republic of Djibouti is already quite strong. We must not increase it further because the purchasing power of the great masses is low. Many Afars and Issas experience great difficulty in raising their children.

An improvement in some budgetary receipts will depend on a better yield of officials under my orders. All my action will be aimed at these men in whom I place complete trust. They will have to earn it. We must fight the economic crisis and not just endure it passively. The same is true of our civil servants, who will have to behave as truly responsible, honest, loyal citizens.

They will be judged on their action. If it should be negative, then, I repeat, I will do away with them. Others are impatiently waiting to be hired and are willing to serve their country loyally.

National Construction

[Question] We often deplore the casual attitude toward administration of the public monies. Has the government planned new sanctions to fight the squandering of public finances?

[Answer] I repeat that the 1987 budget will be carried out with the greatest strictness. Compulsory and priority expenses will mean that:

The amount of reimbursement of the foreign debt will total some 914 million Djibouti francs for the Central Government and 1,481,000,000 for public establishments.

The government's counterpart to investment spending, the sum pledged by the Republic of Djibouti with lender organizations, will be 374 million Djibouti francs in 1987.

Personnel expenditures will amount to 12,731,000,000 Djibouti francs.

We can thus see that these three categories of expenses absorb 14 billion of a budget of some 22 billion Djibouti francs. Other credits have been hard hit by economy measures taken by the government, as shown below. On the whole, the tightening of spending will include (in percent):

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Operating credits for departments | - 15 |
| Maintenance of roads and buildings | - 6.4 |
| Operating subsidies | - 7.4 |
| Equipment credits | - 48.6 |

As you can see, it is a real austerity budget that will be submitted to the National Assembly for its approval. As I have repeated several times, I intend to follow the management of public finances very closely. There will be supervision at all levels and those who stray from the line I am setting forth will be the first to suffer if their behavior goes against the government's interest.

[Question] What changes have you made since your arrival at the head of this great ministry?

[Answer] Only a few days ago, I took over the Ministry of Finance and National Economy. The president has placed his trust in me to assume the task at a time when the economic situation is more than unfavorable. First of all, by giving individuals confidence and by confronting them with their responsibilities, I believe that the ministry, with the modest means it has and with only those means, will now move toward a better future. If changes are necessary, they will come later. We must continue our action with the men already in office. If they truly want to participate in the mission I propose to them, the results will not be long in coming.

[Question] Mr Minister, what would you say to those who foresee a catastrophic economic future for our country? In other words, what assets does the Republic of Djibouti have and on which ones can it rely?

[Answer] A great deal remains to be done. As I was saying at the beginning of our interview, regarding finances, nothing is certain ahead of time. Our predictions are drafted in short-range terms and must be realistic. We are living through the final months of a decade rich in lessons of all kinds.

We must all mobilize in order to assume the full responsibilities we bear. We must live within our own means and develop our social and economic assets. A second 5-year plan in which development of the productive private sector will receive priority will soon come into being.

It should enable our young nation to express itself better in an economic context that is better drafted and better adapted to the needs of its people. For me, this country's prime asset is man. He must forge his own destiny and participate in the task of nation-building with all his strength.

Those serving in the Ministry of Finance now know what I expect of them. I hope that good results will not be long in coming.

11,464
CSO: 3419/61

ECONOMIC COOPERATION CONTINUES WITH FRG

Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 86 pp 1-2

[Text] Negotiations were conducted from 21 to 23 October 1986 between a delegation from the government of the Republic of Guinea and a delegation from the government of the Federal Republic of Germany on continuing economic cooperation between the two countries.

The Guinean delegation was headed by the minister at presidency for plan and international cooperation, Edouard Benjamin. It also included Kemoko Keita, minister of human resources, industry and small and medium enterprises.

The German delegation was headed by Dr Wolf Preuss, director of cooperation with Africa in the Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation.

Financial Cooperation

Both delegations agreed to use the sum of 50 million German marks for the following projects, a sum available for financial cooperation for 1986 and 1987. A total of 10 million marks was granted in December 1985 in anticipation of the 1986 1987 period.

Participation of the DEG [German Development Commission] in the corporate capital of the BICIGUI [International Bank of Commerce and Industry of Guinea] up to the sum of 3 million marks; rehabilitation and expansion of the Conakry Port, Phase 2, up to the sum of 25 million marks; village water projects, up to the sum of 10.5 million marks; the Kerouane water supply system, up to the sum of 1.3 million marks, increasing the 9-million-mark commitment made in 1984; the fund for studies and experts up to the sum of .2 million marks, an increase in the fund of some 2.8 million marks.

For technical cooperation, the two delegations agreed to use 18 million marks as follows: the special renewable energies program (up to the sum of .8 million marks); continuation of these projects: rural development in the Kissidougou region (up to the sum of 5.5 million marks); rural primary health care in Kissidougou and Gueckedou (up to the sum of 5.5 million marks); the Tumbo electrical power plant and technical assistance (up to the amount of 2 million marks); promotion of the RTG [Guinean Radio and Television] (up to 1.8 million marks); an adviser to the MPC (up to .7 million marks); forestry expert (up to 1 million marks; and an adviser for promotion of the small and medium enterprises with the BICIGUI (up to .7 million marks).

The two delegations agreed that their future cooperation should be aimed at the needs of national recovery and the priorities of both sides, especially in the following fields: rural development; transport and communications infrastructures; protection of forest resources; and promotion of the private sector.

In order to evaluate prospects for future cooperation, the GTC said it was willing to organize a seminar on a "Rural Radio" project in Conakry and the KFW [Reconstruction Credit Bank] said it was ready to send a team to draft a study concerning the continuation of its telecommunications commitment.

Aids in the form of goods will be used for spare parts for the TUC minibus fleet and for spare parts and the purchase of an additional generator for the Tumbo electric power plant.

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CSO: 3419/50

LIVESTOCK, HEVEA, PALM OIL DEVELOPMENT LOAN AGREEMENT SIGNED

Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 86 p 10

[Communique]

[Text] On Monday, 26 October 1986, the Ministry of Economy and Finance, in the presence of the ambassador of France, signed two loan agreements with the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation (CCCE), represented by Guy Lecamus, director of the organization in Conakry.

The two agreements concern a livestock development project for the entire country and a hevea and oil palm development project in the forest region.

For the livestock development project, over 8 billion Guinean francs will be mobilized over a 4-year period, 2 billion contributed by the Central Fund and the rest co-financed by the BADEA [Arab Bank for African Economic Development], the World Bank, the Aid and Cooperation Fund and the national budget.

For the hevea and oil palm plantation project, over 40 billion Guinean francs will be invested in 10 years. For the first 3-year phase alone, around 8.5 billion francs will be mobilized, 7.5 billion contributed by the Central Fund and the rest of the financing coming from the national budget.

The two projects fit into the framework of the priority food self-sufficiency and export diversification program.

The goals of the livestock project are to aid increase the productivity of Guinean livestock by a series of actions, including: the construction or reconstruction of infrastructure needed to operate livestock facilities; aid to the the General Livestock Directorate in its work of spreading information and heading up annual vaccination campaigns; creation of associations of breeders and training personnel; creation of a central supply source; financing livestock loans to reintegrate certain cadres into the private sector and for the operation of livestock breeders associations; and the study of all matters relating to the sector, including the drafting of a possible followup project.

The project should involve 160,000 families, about one-third of the rural population.

The effect of the project, evaluated over a 20-year period, should be a 60-percent increase in the size of cattle and an increase in meat and milk production of 75 and 95 percent.

The goals of the hevea project involve the establishment of: industrial palm plantations of 3,000 hectares, 600 hectares for the first phase; 2,000 hectares of village palm plantations; 7,000 hectares of industrial hevea plantations, 400 hectares for the first phase; 1,000 hectares of village hevea plantations; and from 600 to 1,000 hectares of bottom land rice paddies.

Production anticipated when peak capacity is reached will be 17,000 tons of palm oil, 2,000 tons of palm cabbages and 17,000 tons of rubber.

The impact of these projects will be substantial economically and socially. These new operations will make it possible to strengthen bonds of cooperation between the Republic of Guinea and the French Republic in the vital sector of rural development.

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CSO: 3419/50

GRANDES CHUTES HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT OFFICIALLY OPENED

Conakry HOROYA in French 10 Dec 86 p 9

[Article by Jereme Dramou]

[Text] The government of President Lansana Conte has just won its first wager in improving the supply of electric power to Conakry.

On Monday morning, 24 November, Dr Ousmane Sylla, minister of natural resources and energy and head of a large delegation of the CMRN [Military Committee for National Recovery] and the government, presided over ceremonies marking the official opening of the expansion of the Grandes Chutes hydroelectric project located on the Samou River, some 120 km from the capital.

The ceremonies took place in an atmosphere of true celebration and confidence in the future and were attended by high officials from the capital, including: Henri Rhetore, French ambassador; Bakary Sylla, general director of the SNE [National Electric Company]; Maury Kaba, program director of the SNE; Guy Lecamus, director of the CCCE [Central Fund for Economic Cooperation]; Billand [sic], Economic Expansion Station; Gerard Plessis, CGEE [General Electrical Equipment Company] Alsthon France; Jean Louis Chauffour, CGEE Alsthon Conakry. Nearby residents also attended.

Grandes Chutes Hydroelectric Development

The Grandes Chutes hydroelectric project was completed by the CGEE Alsthon partner. Work began on 9 September 1985. The hookup to the Generator 3 system took place on 13 September 1986 and supplied 5 million kWh for a 1-month period of semi-industrial operation and continues to provide energy. Generator 4, connected with the system since 8 November 1986, has operated perfectly.

Purpose of Project

The project in question is for the purpose of expanding the Grandes Chutes hydroelectric development of the Samou River, some 120 km from Conakry. It has a multiple purpose: supplying power to the cities of Conakry, Kindia and those located on the 60 kV-line linking the Grandes Chutes plant with Conakry; and supplying water to the city of Conakry, the Debele mine and the mining camp and compound.

The dam, the intake, a forced conduit and the hydroelectric plant, equipped with two generators, were completed from 1951 to 1953. The project was then complemented by the addition of a forced conduit and two additional generators.

These last two generators, Nos 3 and 4, have been replaced and are named in the CGEE Alsthom contract.

In addition, energy is carried to Conakry by a 60-kV line and to Kindia by a 15-kV line. The leadout station also provides the interconnection of the 60-kV and 110-kV systems.

The project includes generators 3 and 4 with, starting upstream and moving downstream: base valves; turbines, with the conductor, aspiratory device and regulators; alternators and their excitation; refrigeration alternators, bearings and control oil; transformer elevators, neutral cells, phase exits and alternator-transformer connections.

A group of enterprises including CGEE Alsthom, Alsthom Jeumont and Neyrpic was set up to execute the contract, in addition to the portion undertaken by the CGEE Alsthom. Coordination of the entire project and the civil engineering for the construction were entrusted to the CGEE Alsthom, represented in Conakry by Jean Louis Chauffour, resident engineer.

The horizontal Francis 8.8 Mw turbines -- 600 tr/min -- as well as the base valves, conductors, aspirators and regulatory devices were supplied and installed by Alsthom.

Overall refrigeration, transformers, neutral phase cells and connections were supplied and installed by CGEE Alsthom.

Gerard Plessis, African representative of CGEE Alsthom, presented a film at the Grand Hotel de l'Indépendance on Tuesday, 25 November 1986, which was attended by Guinean officials, including the general director of the SNE, Bakary Sylla.

Two short films were shown on the power plant's automated system. The films, produced by CGEE Alsthom, presented impressive scenes aiding viewers to see the high technology which CGEE Alsthom now possesses in dam construction, the supplying of electric power, the manufacture of equipment and related items.

The Grandes Chutes hydroelectric project expresses the will of the Guinean Government to provide the best possible living conditions for the people by supplying them with electric power. The Grandes Chutes development also illustrates the significance which the government of the Second Republic attaches to international cooperation serving developing nations.

There can be no doubt that in Guinea, CGEE Alsthom will do good work.

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CSO: 3419/50

BRIEFS

CONAKRY AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT--The CMRN [Military Committee for National Recovery] and the government, anxious to improve navigation and landing conditions at the Gbessia Airport in Conakry, have asked the Central Economic Cooperation Fund (CCCE) to finance a major investment program. Lamine Bolivogui, minister of economy and finance, and Babacar N'Diaye, secretary of state for transportation and member of the CMRN, joined with Guy Lecamus, director of the CCCE in Conakry in signing an agreement on 26 November 1986 concerning a credit totaling 13.7 million French francs, some 700 million Guinean francs. The credit will make it possible to finance a program including: complete rehabilitation of the control tower; construction of a fence around the airport; and reconstruction of the thresholds and approaches. The program will be totally financed by the Guinean National Budget and the Central Economic Cooperation Fund. The project completes intervention of French-Guinean cooperation in the field of air transport, which since 1983 has received some 160 million French francs in subsidies and credits. [Text] [Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 86 p 10] 11,464

LOAN FOR GOLD MINES--Dr Ousmane Sylla, Guinean minister of natural resources, energy and the environment, and Rene Aubert, president of the Chevaning Mining Company (CMC), joined together on Wednesday, 3 December, in signing the loan agreement for \$12 million by the BIAO-SIFIDA [International Bank for West Africa-Financial Company for Investments and Development in Africa] in Guinea. This basic agreement involves mining and the marketing of production of the Didi and Korou gold mines in the prefecture of Siguiiri by the Gold Mining Company of Guinea (SAG) (a joint venture). Following the signing of the agreement, Sylla, chairman of the board of directors, thanked the partners, who since 1981 have worked closely with Guinean personnel at the Siguiiri site. He reaffirmed the will of the Guinean Government to make the Guinean Gold Mining Company a total success, then guarantee the interests of Guinea and Africanization of SAG personnel in the near future. For his part, Aubert, president of the CMC and deputy chairman of the board of directors, thanked Guinea for the good understanding that has characterized work since exploration of the site, including financing by the partnership of international banks up until the operation of the mines beginning in 1987. He expressed his hope of seeing the Guinean Gold Mining Company serve as an example of success for the creation of other economic units in Guinea. Attending the signing ceremony was Lamine Bolivogui, minister of economy and finance, Kerfalla Yansane, governor of the Central Bank, and several officials from the departments concerned. [Text] [Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 86 p 3] 11,464

ARABIC MAGAZINE, ALGERIAN COOPERATION--Minister of Information and Culture of the Republic of Guinea, Conakry. Dear Mr Minister: I hereby acknowledge receipt of your letter dated 12 November 1986, informing me of the publication starting this month of the monthly Arabic version of HOROYA. This happy event provides me with an opportunity of congratulating, through you, the members of the CMRN and the government, as well as all members of the Guinean press for the efforts you have constantly made to establish a quality press and strength strengthen Islam and the use of the Arabic language in Guinea. I can only assure you of my personal support. I promise to spare no effort to develop the magazine. In such a context, I would like to inform you that I have issued instructions to the press service of our embassy to regularly send to the magazine staff all Algerian magazines and journals in the national language and to subscribe to your periodical. In addition, I have suggested to the Algerian Ministry of Information that we should consider the "twinning" of this magazine with one of the Algerian periodicals in the Arabic language, which would without a doubt make it possible to establish close cooperation between the organs of the press of our two country and strengthen relations of friendship and cooperation between Guinea and Algeria. Sincerely yours, Ambassador A. Boukhari. [Text] [Conakry HOROYA in French 12 Dec 86 p 3] 11,464

CSO: 3419/50

EEC GRANT FOR RURAL WATER SUPPLY ANNOUNCED

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 11 Nov 86 pp 1, 6

[Text]

A grant of \$2.5 million has been approved by the European Economic Community (EEC) in Brussels, Belgium for the improvement of rural water supply project and sanitation facilities in four coastal counties in Liberia.

According to the Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs which served as national authorizing office for the EEC in Liberia, the four counties to benefit from the grant include, Grand Bassa, Grand Kru, Sinoe and Rivercess counties.

A release from the Planning Ministry quoted by the Liberia News Agency (LINA), said Friday that the estimated cost of the project is \$2.7 million, of which the EEC grant will cover the construction costs of 250 water supply points, the provision of 180 ventilated pit latrines, as well as

technical assistance for supervision and sensitization campaigns.

Planning and Economic Affairs Minister Paul Jeffry said the Government of Liberia would finance the salaries, estimated at \$90,000 to seconded staff while local communities will provide voluntary labor estimated at \$110,000.

More than 40,000 people living in the four rural communities, are to benefit from the project.

It will also raise the population awareness of water-related hygiene and health problems, as well as strengthen self-health efforts in this field.

The release said the project will therefore contribute considerably to ameliorate living conditions and to improve economic activities in the project area, the release said. -- LINA

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CSO: 3400/805

ROK, CHINA TO ESTABLISH LIGHT INDUSTRIES

Monrovia DAILY OBSERVER in English 1 Dec 86 pp 1, 6

[Article by Nyenati Allison]

[Text]

Two of Liberia's Asian friends have agreed to open a series of light industries here shortly. South Korea is to engage in mining of bauxite, manganese and uranium while China is expected to set up agricultural tools manufacturing plant, a tyre factory and a cement plant.

Making the disclosure following his recent visit to the two Asian countries, Minister Blamo said the South Korean mining agreement will come into force following the establishment of a "Liberian-Korean Economic Commission." Modalities for the setting up of the proposed commission are currently being worked out.

According to Minister Blamo, the setting up of the joint economic commission will be preceded by the dispatching of several geological experts to Liberia for prospecting.

If the mining plans are implemented, it will be the first involvement of the Korea Government into mining activities in Liberia.

As for China, Minister Blamo said, it agreed to produce tyre from locally produced rubber, set up an agricultural tools-making

plant, and establish nucleus estates in line with Government's Green Revolution activities and construct a new cement factory. Minister Blamo, however, did not say whether the nucleus estates would be set up throughout the country.

Currently, the Chinese Government "is working on the design for the construction of a new Health Ministry."

Unlike the cement factory, the establishment of a tools-making plant and a tyre factory will be the first of their kinds in Liberia.

According to Minister Blamo, the establishments of the proposed industrial institutions will alleviate the "country of losses" incurred on exports of raw materials and reduce the unemployment rate in the country.

The Chinese Government, prior to the recent proposed aids, has given numerous infrastructural and agricultural assistance such as the setting up of the now inactive sugar mill at LIBSUCO in Maryland County, and the construction of the Samuel Kanyon Doe Sports Complex in Paynesville.

U.P.P. CHAIRMAN MATTHEWS SPEAKS ON ECONOMIC ISSUES

Monrovia NEW LIBERIAN in English 2 Dec 36 pp 4-5

[Text of speech by Mr G. Baccus Matthews, chairman of the United People's Party, delivered at a press conference on 27 Nov 1966 in Monrovia]

[END]

The Chairman of the United People's Party (U.P.P.), Mr. G. Baccus Matthews on Thursday delivered a speech at his Broad Street office during a crowded press conference at which time he clearly outlined his party's views on major economic issues.

In his speech, Mr. Matthews who is also Senatorial candidate for Montserrado, touched on the need for the minting of more change coins, amalgamation of government agencies of related functions and the construction of more public buildings among others as cost saving measures to sustain economic recovery. For the benefit of our readers, we hereunder publish the full text of Chairman Matthews' statement:

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Press, Friends:

The United People's Party (U.P.P.) is participating in the on-going Municipal and Legislative By-elections as a manifestation of its desire to see a multi-party political system exist in actuality in this country. This is an objective for which many Liberians have

made extensive sacrifices over the years and it has been well couched in our Constitution. We therefore believe that all citizens must endeavour to ensure that that Constitution works.

The United People's Party (U.P.P.) has been engaged in efforts carefully calculated to contribute to the political stabiliza-

tion process being pursued by President Samuel Kanyon Doe, since we think they are intended to enhance economic and social progress.

We believe that political stability is a pre-condition for economic progress.

At this time, we will address ourselves to a number of other issues of concern, primarily those dealing with the economy:

MONETARY POLICY

We, like all other citizens of Liberia, would wish to see our country return to the days, not too long ago, when U.S. dollar notes were readily available for over-the-counter transactions. Unfortunately, this pleasant prospect will not materialize overnight and hardly in the short term,

given present day economic realities at home and abroad.

When the \$5.00 coin was introduced in 1982, upon the recommendation of the IMF, Liberia was faced with the effect of accumulated short term indebtedness, much arising from the financing projects incidental to the OAU Conference of 1979; extensive local obligations arising from National Bank drawdown on reserves of commercial banks; problems incidental to deficit financing; a crises of confidence in the economy and the attending flight of capital; an inability to restrict the physical outflow of funds outside of the banking process; and massive shortfalls in revenues due to a world-wide recession in the rubber as well as the iron and steel industries. In other words, the U.S. dollar was leaving the economy at a time when we were not earning enough to bring in.

At the beginning of 1980, there were about 2,000 rubber farms operating in the country. By early 1983, there were about 200-190 to be precise. By this time, Firestone had stopped production at its Cavalla estate and freely given the plantation to government

while, at the same time, offering to sell its Harbel Plantation to government for \$26 million payable not in cash, but in natural rubber.

While it is true there was a decline in the price of our major exports, it is equally true that there was also a decline in our access to foreign exchange. The saviour during this period has been, and continues to be, the \$5.00 coin which redeemed us from being reduced to an anomaly in economic science: a country in which no money can be found.

Yet, we wish to suggest that the \$5.00 coin be not perceived as a permanent feature in the economic life of the Liberian people but, rather, be viewed as a temporary buffer, saving us until such time as our export earnings would have increased, thereby affording us greater access to the U.S. dollar.

At this juncture, let us declare that we would wish, as a matter of policy, to discourage the minting of additional \$5.00 coins; and help to undermine public suspicion about either a design to print Liberian notes or to increase the supply of Liberian coins in

the system. Furthermore, the Government should continue providing reassurance against the prospect of devaluating the Liberian dollar and thereby undermining the value of the savings and real property of the citizens of this country.

Let us also state that we are not convinced that the Government has now developed the capacity to effectively contain the outflow of cash through irregular means. Therefore, we will not encourage or support the infusion of U.S. notes in the economy at this time.

However, while noting the temporary relief the \$5.00 coin provides, we do recognize the problem of small change on the local market and access to foreign exchange for international transactions.

While the government was slowly infusing what now amounts to about \$80 million dollars of the \$5.00 coin into the money supply, it appears that it did not effect concomitant appreciation of the quantity of small denomination coins--small change. Obviously, it must now exist, with all deliberate speed, about \$80 million worth of small denomination coins

whose infusion should entail a concurrent and permanent withdrawal of an equal amount of the \$5.00 coin from circulation.

The government should also continue its efforts to build adequate external reserves to finance international trade transactions covering essential commodities, and effect other necessary off-shore payments, to include a modest repatriation of profits. Approaches to external reserves accumulation may be advanced from a short-term, medium term, and long term perspectives as follows:

*SHORT TERM

1. LPMC must reduce its operating cost while increasing the price paid for produce, especially cocoa and coffee, to levels competitive enough to arrest smuggling across the border. The agency's contemplated price increase for cocoa from 50¢ to 70¢ for example, is not enough when compared to the Ivorian price of 95¢.
2. Given the increasing competitiveness of Liberian lumber on the world market, better incentives should be provided the Lumber

Companies so that they may import capital goods to revitalize their operations and enhance efficiency.

3. The major industrial powers, particularly the United States, Germany, France, Italy, Britain and Japan, should be prevailed upon to help the government to build its external reserves and stabilize the economy. The infusion of some money through outright grants is now absolutely necessary and these nations will have to be persuaded to go beyond current levels of assistance. As this is a concern which transcends party-lines, we are prepared to be associated with any plans the government may contemplate towards such ends.

* MEDIUM TERMS

We wish to lend support to government's efforts to privatize a number of non-strategic public corporations. Thus far, however, it has been advertising abroad with limited success. Let us suggest that it now consider the course of first running audits of the

corporations to determine their assets and liabilities. Thereafter, it should sell shares to both foreigners and Liberians, including the employees of the corporations, with the other shareholders borrowing abroad against the assets of the corporation to complete their purchase from the Government.

* LONG TERM

The short and medium-term approaches to accumulate external reserves will buy much-needed time. They will enable a long lasting and permanent approach to get on course: that is, the Green Revolution, with its prospects for cash-crop production and cut-backs on the drain of reserves to finance food imports, particularly rice.

* EFFICIENCY IN THE BUREAUCRACY

We are certain that assistance from friendly countries will come only in direct proportion to a demonstration of our own political will to make the hard decisions necessary to get our house in order.

The Government bureaucracy is too large and unwieldy. Inefficient and encumbered by red tape, it has 17

ministries and more than 14 autonomous agencies engaged in extensive duplication of functions and overlapping responsibilities.

We can hardly pretend to be a serious country when, for example, at the Ministry of Finance, tax payers must sometimes spend days trying to reach the Government's cashiers. The Government itself is suffering from the weight of its own bureaucracy with the processing of a voucher for office stationery, for example, requiring no less than 9 signatures from at least three separate agencies.

In order for foreigners to go beyond amused interest in our intentions, we will have to get our act together. Why should we expect, from abroad, help with agricultural production when the Ministry of Agriculture is encouraging private efforts while the Ministry of Internal Affairs has been advocating a communal approach--with the result being, the cultivation of dual farms, one for the individual and the other having no specific owner? What belongs to everybody, belongs to nobody.

In the area of government services, the

battle for performance of the procurement and property control function is still not resolved. GSA continues to insist that it has this responsibility by law but, in practice, each agency carries on its own procurement and maintenance functions. In the end, no one seems to be able to say exactly what Government is consuming or how Government property can be effectively maintained.

The problem of the duplication of function must be addressed. Look at the function of Public Works and rural Development according to the National Budget. the objective of the Ministry of Public Works is "to provide professional and technical services to support the major program and other agencies of Government in the field of construction," whereas the objective of the Ministry of Rural Development is equally "to provide professional, technical and engineering services needed for the implementation of programs undertaken by the major program."

Agencies with related functions should be amalgamated: Public Works and Rural Development; Labour and Civil Service; Educa-

tion and Youth & Sports, are good examples.

As a cost-saving measure, Government should embark upon a redeployment of labour to the private sector without entailing a loss of income to those who might be affected. Government should spin-off services which can be better performed by the private sector such as building maintenance, auto repairs, mail deliveries, etc. The manpower involved should be organized into private corporate ventures whose services can then be contracted by both Government and the private sectors.

PUBLIC BUILDING POLICY:

As at June 1, 1962, the Government of Liberia had over 700 rented or leased buildings to house schools, hospitals and clinics, offices, residences, etc., costing more than three million dollars annually. The General Services Agency is currently updating its records to assess the level of increase. And there have been increases.

The Government has recognized the drain its housing policy is having on the national coffers, and it is now embarked upon

the construction of public buildings which we trust will not become unduly ambitious.

We will provide encouragement for Government to continue construction of public buildings as a long-term cost-saving measure which equally spurs employment and enhances the physical development of the country. Whenever possible, long term soft loans should be secured to build more offices with programming at the same line of current rental appropriations in the budget to amortize the loans.

* CODE OF CONDUCT

There are some men in public service who are sincere, dedicated and honest. There are others who have difficulty measuring up to these high standards. A few don't even bother to try; while others become confused when they seek to determine what is "acceptable" since, in our society, a debate

ensues as to what, in fact, is the standard. The following queries may accentuate the point:

- 1) Is there impropriety involved in a cabinet Minister employing his brother who is qualified for the job?
- 2) Is it acceptable for a vehicle assigned to a high government official to be used for private family matters or be borrowed for weddings, etc.?
- 3) May a Legislator, who is a Counselor-At-Law, enter the court room to practice law?
- 4) May a traffic judge or an official of the National Police Force own a taxi cab?
- 5) May a government official own a private business which seeks a contract from the government?

Due to a lack of a national consensus on

these and related issues, a public official in our country could quite easily be exposed to accusations of conflict of interest, nepotism, misuse of public office or corruption. Evidently a code of conduct is necessary.

In the instance that I am elected to the Honourable Senate I shall encourage the prospect of a public hearing on this issue to establish the basis from which appropriate legislation may be introduced.

Now, Ladies and Gentlemen, we wish to declare that the United People's Party (UPP) is prepared to cooperate with the Government at achieving results consistent with what we have advanced. It would therefore follow that were I elected Senator, I would act in accordance with what has now been declared as the position of the Party on the major national issues.

We thank you.

/9274

CSO: 3400/304

PROBLEMS CONTINUE IN EDUCATION FIELD

Monrovia Teachers Association Suspended

Monrovia DAILY STAR in English 1 Dec 86 p 8

[Text]

The Monrovia Consolidated School System Teachers Association (MCSSTA) has been suspended by the National Union of Liberia Teachers (NULT) "for practicing new developments contrary to NULT's policies and principles."

In a statement issued to the press over the weekend, the NULT Representative Council said it has given the MCSSTA three alternatives to comply with, for the lifting of the suspension.

Among them, the Representative Council demands that the MCSSTA fully meet her financial obligation to NULT and agree to be governed by NULT.

NULT also said that it wants the MCSSTA to elect a representative government instead of an interim leadership.

"Until those

conditions are met, the MCSSTA will remain suspended as local branch of NULT," the statement noted.

The decision to have the MCSSTA activities suspended emanated from an ordinary session convened over the weekend by NULT for its representative council to address itself to issues affecting its smooth operations as a professional organization.

The NULT Representative Council observed at the meeting that there were strange developments in the

operations of NULT in recent times contrary to the union's policies and principles.

The statement did not say what were the developments, but noted that the decision to suspend the MCSSTA was based on the union's conviction that the MCSSTA was responsible for said contradictory developments.

It was not, however, disclosed as to whether the MCSSTA was represented at the NULT Representative Council meeting where the decision was reached, but it is believed that the interim leadership may address itself to the issue later today.

Teachers Strike for Fund Accountability

Monrovia DAILY STAR in English 2 Dec 86 pp 1, 7

[Article by Nathaniel Jallah]

[Text]

There are reports that normal classroom activities have come to a standstill in Sinoe County, following a go-slow action by teachers in that county in demand of an account for more than \$6,000 allegedly collected from them by the local education authorities in that county.

Reports reaching this paper from Greenville said that the teachers began their go-slow action early last week after the Chief Education Officer in that county, Mr. Irvin Koffa had refused to give account for the amount.

According to our correspondent, the decision by the teachers to lay down their chalks stemmed from a one-week ultimatum given the education authorities

to turn the amount over to the chairman of the financial committee of the Sinoe Teachers' Union, Mr. Samuel A. Ross, III, and the treasurer of that committee, Mrs. Martha Johnson Grigsby.

The November 21, 1986 issue of the DAILY STAR newspaper reported

that the teachers had threatened a 'go-slow' if the local education authorities fail to account for the amount.

The threat was reportedly made by the teachers who contended that the compulsory payment of \$10.00 by each teacher in the county for the construction of teacher guest houses in Grand Gedeh, Maryland, Grand Kru and Sinoe Counties, could not be accounted for.

But the CEO denied the teacher's allegation and noted that they (teachers) were contradicting themselves since the collection of the funds was an understanding reached between his office and the teachers, through a written directive by the Senior Regional Officer in Grand Gedeh

County, Mr. Johnson S. Walibo.

However, Mr. Walibo told newsmen at the Ministry of Education that he had no knowledge of

instructing the CEO to collect funds from the teachers.

In an effort to ascertain the 'go-slow' action by the teachers, Mr. Koffa told our correspondent that he was not aware of teachers laying down their chalks, but noted that he heard rumours that the teachers were not attending their normal classes.

When reporters visited the public schools to chat with the aggrieved teachers, they were taken by surprise when they met the schools closed, with the exception of the Science Center at

the Sinoe High School, where only Peace Corps Volunteers were seen carrying on their duty without students.

As a result of the 'go-slow', hundreds of students from private schools throughout the county have refused to attend classes because of threats from their colleagues to attack them, if they are to continue attending classes.

Meanwhile, the St. Joseph's Catholic Junior High School in Greenville, has expressed its dissatisfaction over the continuous disruption of classes by public schools and called on the Ministry of Education to do all it can in finding a lasting solution.

Islamic Teachers' Strike Demands Arrears

Monrovia DAILY STAR in English 5 Dec 86 pp 1, 7

[Article by Ephiriam Johns]

[Excerpt]

Teachers at the Islamic Training Junior High School in Kakata, Margibi County, have reportedly laid down their chalks in demand of five months salary arrears and other working incentives.

According to the teachers, the decision to lay down their chalks was reached due to the failure by the Board of Directors of the school to address itself to the financial problems they are

The teachers who claimed that they have not been paid since June this year, said the strike action was necessary since they could not get redress from the institution's board of directors.

The teachers also revealed that they were constrained to stay away from school because the board is allegedly using the institution as a "Credit Union" by lending the school's fund to board members for business transaction.

"As a result of the unwholesome practice, the board found

it difficult to meet up with its payroll, since those who credited the amount have failed to pay the amount," the teachers added.

When contacted, the man who claimed to be the Director of the school and Iman, Alhaji Vafie Korsia, said he had no comment to make.

For his part, the Governor of the Mandingo Community in Kakata, Alhaji Lansana Sheriff, said that he is not a member of the School Board, neither is he a part of the institution. He pointed out that matters pertaining to the school are taken care of by its board and executive members.

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS STRIKE AGAINST MINISTERIAL REFORM DIRECTIVES

Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 13 Dec 86 p 5

[Text] The atmosphere has been highly charged in the Malagasy capital for the past few days, with numerous pamphlets being distributed, as the students have hardened their attitude to government reforms. Led by the Union Nationale des Associations Estudiantines de Madagascar, the students of the university of Madagascar and other regional faculties are now firmly resisting ministerial directives on "the reform and management of university facilities." A demonstration was staged on December 9 in Antananarivo by students accusing the government of opting for an elitist system which takes no account of their living conditions. In meeting after meeting the students have tried to convince the authorities, but without result. Faced with the indifference of the government, which plays down their grievances and their power, the students have begun a strike until the measures are definitively withdrawn.

The president of the MRVM, the student group affiliated to the VONJY party of Marojama Razanabahiny, has spoken in support of the strike. Previously the parties in the Front National de Defense de la Revolution had refrained from taking a stance on the student problem.

The MAREMA student movement linked to President Didier Ratsiraka's party, the AREMA, is also paying lip service to the principle of the strike, while hoping to take control of the protest movement which is now threatening to spread to the provinces. Ignace Rakoto, the minister for higher education, spoke recently in Fianarantsoa, where he was unable to convince his audience. The faculty of Tulear remains under pressure (see ION No 247).

Meanwhile Celine Ratsiraka, the president's wife, condemned the student unrest last weekend, blaming it on "professional students." Antananarivo's inhabitants, still shocked by the "kung-fu massacre" last August when the army assaulted the headquarters of martial arts practitioners, are reluctant to show open approval for the students' strikes. The protest movement was unaffected by a report in the daily Madagascar-Matin to the effect that the government would be prepared to postpone some of the measures that are being contested.

/9317

CSO: 3400/759

BRIEFS

FAMINE IN SOUTH CONFIRMED--The pro-government daily paper, Madagascar-Matin, mentioned for the first time on December 2 the fact that famine was prevalent in the Androy region of south-east Madagascar, in delayed confirmation of The Indian Ocean Newsletter report of November 8 (ION No 255). The newspaper, which is usually uncritical of government policy, commented that "the offence of non-assistance to a region in danger is currently being committed in the south." [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 13 Dec 86 p 7] /9317

BUDGET INCREASED--To general surprise, Madagascar's draft finance law shows a rise in the budget of 53 percent in relation to 1986, with operating expenses put at 326.5 billion Malagasy francs compared to 218.8 billion last year. Planned capital expenditure is up 53 percent from 77 billion Malagasy francs to 118.2 billion. These rises are to the advantage of the health services (up 32.3 percent), primary and secondary education (up 15 percent), defence (up 11 percent) and higher education (up 11 percent). Another feature of the budget is the downward revision of between 10 and 15 percent, in the level of company profit tax, which currently stands at 45 percent. In spite of this measure, the budget envisages additional tax revenue of 77.3 billion Malagasy francs. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 13 Dec 86 p 7] /9317

CSO: 3400/759

BRIEFS

LIBYAN ASSETS TO BE FREED--The Mauritian government has decided to release all the Libyan assets in the country which have been frozen since the expulsion in January 1984 of Tripoli's diplomats from Port Louis, the weekly publication Week-End has reported. The amount involved is said to come to a total of seven million rupees. If this report is correct, the move could be followed by the return of Libyan diplomats to Mauritius. A pressure group is said to be busy trying to persuade prime minister Anerood Jugnauth to agree to resume relations with Tripoli. The Indian Ocean Newsletter reported in its October 18 issue (ION No 252) the appointment of Eshan Khodabux, the leading defender of Libyan interests in the island, as editor of the Defi, a pro-government newspaper close to finance minister Vishnu Lutchmeenaraidoo. It is he who reportedly is the source of Week-End's report. [Text] [Paris THE INDIAN OCEAN NEWSLETTER in English 13 Dec 86 p 2] /9317

CSO: 3400/759

MOZAMBIQUE

NATION'S EVOLVING RELATIONS WITH U.S. ANALYZED

Lisbon AFRICA in Portuguese 26 Nov 86 pp 4,6

[Article by Sigawule Muyendzi]

[Text] "It is the hour of the Americans." (Caption accompanying a photograph of "country and western" musicians in the newspaper DOMINGO, from Maputo in November 1984)

Until about 5 years ago, the United States was viewed by the government-inspired Mozambican press as the most dangerous imperialist enemy. This image was deliberately emphasized in the celebrated presentation to the local and international press of some Mozambicans who had been corrupted by the "CIA's espionage network in Maputo." Given a staging that was lamentably flawed--because of the "patriotic" excesses of the accuser (a young man who was certainly an aficionado of American spy movies), compared to which excesses the calm statement of one of the "traitors" (Chissano's right hand man in the Foreign Affairs Ministry) seemed positively noble--the exasperated information minister, Jose Luis Cabaco, ended the press conference with a noisy thump of his fist on the table, after choleric accusations against the United States. Three years later, in 1984, the "traitor" had been given amnesty and Cabaco was showing up, smiling warmly and broadly, in photographs taken at the U.S. Embassy.

It may be much too soon to conclude from this that there have been profound changes in the positions of the two countries. There is no doubt, however, that 1984 emerges as the "pivotal year" for Mozambican politics and thus in its relations with the Americans. It need only be noted that this was a year of important events, which were certainly related: in March, Samora signed the N'komati Accord (to which the Americans contributed as intermediaries); in April, banker David Rockefeller visited Maputo and was received by Samora (while the local press was justifying the capitalist investments, NOVOSTI was publishing an article in which it accepted the "concessions in a transition period"); shortly thereafter, a delegation arrived, comprising 31 banking officials and technicians of the "World Affairs Council of Northern California"; Interior Minister Guebuza, considered pro-Soviet, was dismissed; Frank Wisner, deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, prepared to visit Maputo as part of his plan of "constructive engagement"; the president of the Maputo Chamber of Commerce visited the United States; in August, as a result of insistent public criticism, the USSR explained the "advantages" of its cooperation with the Mozambicans, in an article

paid for and identified as "publicity" in the local newspapers; in September, Mozambique went to the IMF; the following month, for the first time, FRELIMO and RENAMO publicly entered into negotiations, in Pretoria, and Samora paid his first visit to Malawi.

Ambiguity

It is obvious that the economic crisis and the war were the primary "incentives" for this whole series of events. The rapprochement was peaking in 1985, when the U.S. administration was arranging \$1.15 million in military aid to Mozambique; although this measure was thwarted by the unacceptable demands of the House of Representatives (drastic reduction of the number of Soviet and Cuban advisors), the United States succeeded in opening an important breach in the "iron curtain" of FRELIMO propaganda. From then on, the U.S. contributions began to be duly publicized in the local press. The Mozambicans "discovered" that, even in 1983 and 1984, Mozambique was the African country which had received the most aid from the United States; that in the last 3 years the United States had been the largest donor; that this aid, to the tune of about \$58 million per year (\$45 million in drought relief and \$13 million for development), had equalled that of the Scandinavian countries (FRELIMO's oldest and most faithful friends) and the USSR (basically military aid) combined. The "reactionary" Reagan, whom the residents of Nampula had already been calling the "president who sends us 'jeans' with dollars in the pockets" (actually, used clothing in which, occasionally, the "rich" Americans overlook some folding money), came to be considered a political leader with whom dialogue is possible and, in September 1985, Samora went to the United States. Some months before, the front page of NOTICIAS featured a large photograph of a smiling President Machel, shaking hands with Melvin Laird, former U.S. secretary of defense. However, the caption said: "We are nonaligned; we desire socialism." This language, at times indecipherable, was simply the mark of the duplicity which has ruled relations between the two governments up to now. We have already seen how Reagan proposed military aid and how the House of Representatives denied it. We have also seen how the American administration preached "constructive engagement" and how it was supporting "apartheid"; how it provides emergency aid, but voices reservations; for example, Congressman Howard Philips observed that "the only sign of pro-Western leanings on Mozambique's part is that they are prepared to accept money from the United States." Still, the donations have continued, with regularity. The visits by delegations have also intensified, albeit without immediate practical results (i.e., investments). There have been certain signs of the persisting mistrust and, primarily, ambiguity, which has taken on curious aspects.

Case of the Sovereign [sic] Order of the Knights of Malta

Let us look at just one example. In September 1985, the Sovereign Order of the Knights of Malta, donated, through the Portuguese-American Association, a quantity of clothing, medicines and food, valued at \$20 million. A year later, 20 containers, valued at \$5 million, were shipped to Niassa. Well, this Order is a philanthropic organization of the American far Right and its leadership includes such political figures as William Casey (former CIA) and Alexander Haig (former Secretary of state), religious conservatives such as Cardinal J. O'Connor (New York) and Cardinal F. Law (Boston) and even such fascist

adventurers as Roy Cohn (who was once hatchet man for the infamous Senator Mc Carthy). Its current "patron" and Maecenas is multimillionaire Lewis Lehrman, who is a supporter of American intervention in Central America and who has already been photographed at Savimbi's side in Jamba. He collaborates with the Air Commando [Association and] SOLDIER OF FORTUNE magazine, known to be associated with mercenaries, and he founded Americares, whose advisory council includes a brother of Vice President George Bush. We do not know if Americares is related to CARE-Mozambique, but it is public knowledge that this last organization is coordinating the logistics of the Department of Disaster Prevention in Mozambique from 1984 to 1988. Although Americares is very discreet in its giving (only \$7 million from 1984 to 1986), it owns very powerful radio transmitters and receivers, whose huge antennae are rivaled only by those of the Embassy of the USSR, which, ironically, is located a few meters away from the CARE headquarters.

Lehrman is on the council of the Heritage Foundation, RENAMO's principal support in the United States.

It is also strange that the walls of his offices are decorated with "geological" maps of Mozambique, made in the United States, of course.

Here Come the Americans

The non-governmental organizations (ONG) are beginning to swarm Maputo. They include USAID, "Hope for Africa," the "USA for Africa," "Our Developing World," etc.. If we add to these the constant presence of the American Embassy, the IMF, the World Bank and ESSO (which, some sources say, has already hired an American colonel--a Rambo?-- to train Mozambican troops), (General Motors (lauded by Enear Comiche, governor of the Bank of Mozambique, for its integrity), ITT, General Electric and so on, the picture becomes clearer. The once subversive Voice of America is even announcing its Mozambican programming in the newspaper NOTICIAS! All this demonstrates a sincere American interest in belying the much proclaimed indifference of a few years ago. There is further evidence of this interest. The United States has been Mozambique's second largest customer since 1976, close behind the USSR and ahead of the GDR. Whereas, in 1973, the United States accounted for only 13.6 percent of the purchases from the Portuguese colony of Mozambique (Portugal stood first, with 35.6 percent), in 1979 the U.S. purchases amounted to 23.5 percent, more than the EEC countries combined (22.9 percent) and almost twice as much as Portugal (14.6 percent). Reagan has already offered \$500 million of the \$700 million needed for the Beira Corridor. Decidedly, the United States is wagering on Mozambique. Some might say the Americans were hoping that the young country was on its knees, the better to impose their conditions. In fact, one of these conditions is known. American aid must be channeled to private farmers, and is not to be extended to state farms or cooperatives. American imperialism was even more "provocative" when, at the last FACIM [Maputo International Trade Fair], its pavillion propagandized the mythical "self-made man," giving Mozambicans "with initiative" (an expression much used by the capitalists, which has now been adopted by the Mozambican press) the expectation that anyone can get rich by putting good little ideas to work.

The recent loss of Samora does not appear to alter the development of the situation, although it was accompanied by the disappearance of some other names that

could also have had something to do with this rapprochement. Aquino de Braganca used to tell me that one trip to the United States is worth more than 10 trips to China; Fernando Honwana was in the United States this year, garnering sympathy and support for the Beira Corridor; Lobo, vice minister of foreign affairs, attended an American university and was ambassador to the United Nations for almost 10 years. The fact is that Chissano seems to be an individual in whom the American administration has trust. NEWSWEEK reported that the Americans' preference for Chissano's then potential presidency was so enthusiastic that they wanted to conceal it, fearing that it could be the "kiss of death" for Chissano's chances to succeed Samora.

Cultural Omnipresence

Last, but certainly not least, we must bear in mind the cultural aspects which, to us, are the most important political trump card. It is known how the Americans are appreciated (envied) in Mozambique. Culturally acclimatized by the colonial process, in which Portugal's position as a Western country was unquestioned, and by the proximity of South Africa, whose culture is, superficially, "made in the U.S.A.," the young Mozambicans in the cities--and not only in the cities--continue to prefer American movies and American television serials ("Fame," for example) and to go crazy for "Adidas" sneakers and "jeans." Yet, are the Mozambicans at fault when the best modern music is American, but with predominantly black roots? The "lure of the West," more precisely, the "Far West," is irrepressible and irreversible. This whole attraction is expressed in the confession of the Mozambican poet Patraquim, told, one imagines, to the Russian Maiakovski: "I suffer the swinging style of that gang, 'chewin' gum' to complete the get-up of sneakers, jeans and T-shirt, because I know this is not good (...)" Then...

At Stake

The conclusion--hasty, to our mind--could be as follows: from all indications, sooner or later, the regime will abandon socialism and turn to capitalism; it will break with the USSR and ally with the United States. This interpretation would disregard several important aspects, such as: the FRELIMO power structure; the situation in southern Africa; the "socialist" penetration among the military and other beneficiaries of scholarships from the university, the party and the companies; the sincere nationalism of the top leaders and even the genuine Marxism of some of them.... It is more legitimate to conclude that the American, capitalist and imperialist penetration is undoubtedly owing to the state of weakness (growing? temporary?) of the party-state and that at the center of this development there rises, once again, the issue of 20 years ago, of 11 years ago: the conquest of the independence of the Mozambican nation!

6362

CSP: 3442/51

VISITING SOVIET LABOR DELEGATION HEAD SPEAKS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Dec 86 p 2

[Text] Anatoliy Surovtsev, secretary of the Central Committee of the Construction and Construction Industry Workers' Trade Unions in the Soviet Union, said last Wednesday in Maputo that the struggle the Mozambican workers are waging for economic freedom and against the armed bandits in the pay of the Pretoria racists will continue to receive firm and solid support from the trade unionists in his country. This official spoke to our reporters just moments before leaving Maputo to return to his country. He was concluding a 1 week visit to Mozambique within the framework of the cooperative relations existing between the trade union organizations in the two countries.

Speaking about his visit to our country, Anatoliy Surovtsev, who also heads the construction industry trade unions in his country, expressed his satisfaction with the results achieved during his trip, because, he said, his delegation had an opportunity to see how the Mozambican workers, particularly those in the construction sector, with whom he had direct contact, are dedicated to the construction of projects and at the same time the defense of their labor sites.

"During our stay we made contact both with trade union structures and with workers in the construction branch in Maputo. We were impressed by the level and scope of the drainage projects in Maputo, the artistic level of the furnishings in the bottle factory, and it was also interesting for us to hear the workers themselves tell about the difficulties in their daily work. This will make our support of the sector easier, especially with regard to problems resulting from the shortage of labor tools and protective gear," Anatoliy Surovtsev said.

This visit, which is the second the head of the Soviet trade union delegation has paid us, had as its purpose the development of friendship and talks with the unions in Mozambique, which will promote the deepening of the cooperative relations existing between the trade union organizations in the two countries.

Concerning the results achieved, although no agreements have as yet been signed, as this was not on the agenda for the visit, this official said they were profitable, because apart from the trade union sector, the welcome his

delegation was given "confirms once again the firm friendship existing between the Soviet and Mozambican peoples, as well as between the governments of the two countries," he said.

Asked to speak about the prospects for cooperation between his trade union and the construction workers' union which is to be created in our country shortly, Anatoliy Surovtsev said he hopes that the two unions will have very strong relations, and as soon as the new union is established, the two structures will define the guidelines for cooperation. As an example of this collaboration, he mentioned the training of Mozambican trade union cadres in his country.

5157

CSO:3442/52

BILATERAL RELATIONS PRAISED BY PRC AMBASSADOR

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 17 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] "The people of Mozambique will win!" This was how Zhang Baosheng, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China, concluded the statement he made to NOTICIAS in Maputo about the situation in southern Africa and the relations between the Chinese nation and the People's Republic of Mozambique.

In his statement, Zhang Baosheng said:

"At a time when the year 1986 is just ending and 1987 is about to begin, I would like to take the opportunity to greet the people of Mozambique and to congratulate them for the heroic struggle and arduous efforts they have put forth in this year just ending, and to wish them new and greater successes in the year to come.

The relations between China and Mozambique are characterized by their lasting nature and profound friendship. They were forged during the lengthy common struggle against imperialism and colonialism. As the leaders of Mozambique have said, the people of Mozambique and the people of China are both brothers and comrades in arms.

This is a friendship to which the leaders of our two countries have devoted great attention and love.

President Samora Machel visited China five times, and President Chissano has been to China on two occasions.

Chinese leaders on various levels have visited Mozambique, one after the other, and this has contributed greatly to the friendship and cooperation existing between the two peoples.

I am certain that the tree of friendship planted and watered by the Sino-Mozambican leaders will take root and will grow ever stronger.

It is easy for China and Mozambique to understand and sympathize with each other, because they are both developing countries. In the process of their revolution and construction effort, the Chinese people have always had the

encouragement and support of the people of Mozambique, while the Chinese people have always stood by the Mozambicans, providing them with everything within they could to contribute to and cooperate in their struggle and construction effort.

China established diplomatic relations with Mozambique as soon as it proclaimed its independence. Since then, the two countries have engaged in broad and effective cooperation in the political, economic, cultural and health sectors, as well as others, and the economic cooperation between the two countries and their projects have been closely linked with the daily life of the Mozambican people.

The following are the norms to which China adheres in developing its economic relations with the countries of the Third World:

- Mutual support and respect.
- Mutual and complementary equality and benefits.
- Joint progress.

I believe that the cooperation between China and Mozambique is becoming ever broader, and the friendship between the two parties, governments and peoples is consolidating and developing constantly.

In the past as in the present and future, it has always been one of the basic policies of the Chinese government to strengthen unity and cooperation with African countries and to support the just struggles these peoples are waging.

The government and the people of China are closely following the development of the situation in southern Africa, and they firmly support the Namibian people in their struggle for national independence, as well as the struggles of the peoples in this region against apartheid. This is because these struggles are inseparable from those the peoples of various other countries have undertaken in defense of peace and justice.

The Chinese people forcefully condemn the South African authorities for their stubborn persistence in racist domination, their bloody repression of the black population in South Africa and their unscrupulous aggression against and efforts to destabilize neighboring countries. The Chinese people resolutely support real sanctions against South Africa.

The young People's Republic of Mozambique, which has contributed and is continuing to contribute to the just struggles of the peoples of southern Africa, is one of the Front Line countries.

The aggression against and destabilization of Mozambique have been such as to reveal the firmness and clarity of the position of its people with regard to the racist South African regime.

It was in this struggle that President Samora Machel fell. His tragic death had a great impact, and the presence of such numerous foreign delegations at

the funeral ceremonies revealed not only the prestige and importance which President Samora Machel enjoyed internationally, but also offered proof that the People's Republic of Mozambique ranks high in the world and that the struggle of the Mozambican people has the support and sympathy of all other peoples.

I am convinced that under the leadership of the FRELIMO Party and President Joaquim Chissano, the people of Mozambique will overcome the temporary difficulties they encounter along the path of progress, and that they will win new and more grandiose victories in their struggle to safeguard independence, sovereignty and security and in their effort to revive the economy, provided that they join closely together, persist in the struggle and consistently synthesize their experience.

The people of Mozambique will triumph!"

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PRIME MINISTER VISITS PEQUENOS LIBOMBOS DAM SITE

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 19 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Almiro Santos]

[Text] The filling of the reservoir at the Pequenos Libombos Dam in the district of Boane in Maputo began yesterday, after the provisional openings in the dam wall, through which the Umbeluzi River flow passed, were blocked. Prime Minister Mario da Graça Machungo was present for the closing of the last two openings. He arrived at the site at about 10:30 am, being accompanied by Minister of Construction and Water Resources Julio Carrilho, Minister of Agriculture João Ferreira, Minister of Finance Abdul Magid and Maputo Province Governor José Moiane.

The delegation accompanying Prime Minister Mario Machungo also included other party and government officials, as well as the Mozambican ambassadors accredited to China and the United Nations. The delegation headed by Mario Machungo arrived at about 10:30 am in a helicopter, which landed in a field near the dam project site.

On his arrival, Mario Machungo was welcomed by Engs Rogerio White, project director, and Altenor Pereira, as well as other officials, including the Maputo water resources director.

The importance of closing the openings through which the Umbeluzi River flow passed was explained by Eng Rogerio White. He said that this was a part of a previously drafted program which will result in the filling of the Pequenos Libombos dam reservoir in a period of time which will depend on the rainfall.

The filling of the dam reservoir will make it possible to store water and to regulate the flow of the Umbeluzi River, which varies, depending basically on the rainy seasons.

According to the explanation provided to Prime Minister Mario Machungo, the blocking of the openings will bring the water up to a determined level. There are to be two lateral filters through which it will pass.

The desired level will be reached, according to estimates made yesterday morning, in about 11 days. However, Eng Rogerio White stressed, that level

may be reached in 10 days, or even just 2, since this depends heavily on whether a great deal of rain or just a little falls.

As a concrete example of this phenomenon, Eng Rogerio White explained that during the tropical storm Domoina, the river flow was so great that, under present circumstances, it would only take 2 days to reach the water level planned.

With the containment of the Umbeluzi River, the filling of the Pequenos Libombos Dam reservoir will begin. Its importance in terms of water resources has to do with the need to control the water so that it can be rationed during the dry season.

On the other hand, with the flooding of nearly 38 square kilometers, this undertaking will prove very useful, both economically and socially, because in addition to the energy which will be provided in the region (only in the district of Boane), this undertaking will allow for the irrigation of about 14,000 adjacent hectares.

But as Eng Altenor Pereira said, this is only one of a series of projects on the basis of which a great contribution will be made to improving the water supply serving the city of Maputo.

Thus the system presently supplying the city of Maputo with water will benefit, beginning early in the second half of next year, from double the volume, in terms of the quota established to date. This means that the water pipes in the city of Maputo will have to be strengthened or replaced. This is a project which, officials affiliated with the sector say, has already been begun. Work is being done currently on the basis of the new requirements.

In addition to this, the storage of water in the dam reservoir will provide an available supply for any future period of drought. On this basis, the city of Maputo could be supplied with water for a period of 3 years without rainfall.

Eng Rogerio White said that the water stored in the Pequenos Libombos Dam reservoir could provide a 2-year supply. This would mean that in order to flood the entire reservoir area as is planned, it will be necessary to wait about 2 years. However, he said, the time required will depend on the volume of the river's flow, and that in turn depends on the intensity of the rainfall which occurs.

Another process being carried forward, parallel with the plan for storing water at the dam, is the double system based on the processing at the Treatment and Pumping Station, so as to establish a system of response to the subsequent volume of the Umbeluzi River.

In addition to these various advantages of the dam reservoir, there is a similar one pertaining to control of the water resources in the district of Boane, the benefits of which will extend to the city of Maputo, with the increase and greater extension of water distribution, as already mentioned above.

An Enduring Product

Prime Minister Mario Machungo, accompanied by the officials from the various ministerial offices represented there, was present for the closing of two of the three temporary openings in the Pequenos Libombos Dam wall.

The openings, three in all, permitted the water of the Umbeluzi River to pass through. One of them was closed on the day preceding Prime Minister Mario Machungo's arrival. The closing of the last opening took place at about 11:30 am yesterday, when a plate 10 centimeters thick and about 5 meters high was put in place on the lower body of the dam.

The placement of the first plate was witnessed by the prime minister from the side of the reservoir, while the second p was put in place after Mario Machungo had proceeded to one of the internal platforms in the dam, from which an overall view of the Umbeluzi River, on the side where the river flow was blocked, was possible.

Mario Machungo was present for the placement of the plates, and thus he was a witness to the mastery of the operators who, from the highest platform on the dam, proceeded to put the plates in question over the openings, located about 40 meters from the position occupied by the crane operators.

The prime minister then toasted the beginning of the first phase of the filling of the reservoir, together with the dam technicians and workers. This can be regarded as an event wvhich will have a great economic and social impact on the economic recovery of our country.

This project can be viewed as one of the leading sources of pride for the people of Mozambique, both because of its importance and because of the grandiose nature of this concrete giant.

The Third Congress of the FRELIMO Party approved the construction of the Pequenos Libombos Dam, and work was begun in 1983. The list of expected benefits was the basis of the hope that this project would improve the current water supply for the city of Maputo, as well as providing other expected social advantages, above all where the regional energy supply is concerned.

Possible Restrictions

Logically, keeping these three openings closed until the level 20 is reached will mean that water will not reach the Umbeluzi Treatment and Pumping Station. This may lead to various situations requiring limitations on the normal processing and distribution of water to the city of Maputo or, in the worst of cases, a possible cut in the supply of water to the Umbeluzi Treatment Station. This might in turn mean that the city of Maputo would be without water for the time it takes for the water to reach the planned level. It was learned from certain officials in the water resources sector, for example, that a water-pumping system will be used at the dam for as long as it takes to reach the level referred to above.

This plan will make it possible to supply at least 1 cubic meter of water per second to the Umbeluzi Treatment Station. A source at that station said that this volume of water, together with what is already en route from the dam to the station, will provide enough volume so that the possibility of cutting the normal distribution of water is not contemplated. However, this assessment does not mean that there might not be minor limitations, that source said.

But if in fact there are minor reductions in the quotas of water supplied to the city of Maputo, they will not be such as to justify great concern, again according to the source at the Umbeluzi Water Treatment Station.

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FISHING POTENTIAL OF INHAMBANE PROVINCE ANALYZED

Scarcity of Fish in Markets

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by Custodio Inacio]

[Text] Not infrequently residents (and visitors) wonder about the shortage of fish in the city of Inhambane (meaning the markets), since this province, from the north to the south, has an enviable maritime coast suited to the production of the most varied types of shellfish. This question would even be asked by one unfamiliar with the famous redbfish, skate, jackfish, mackerel and many other varieties which Inhambane prided itself on producing, consuming, and why not, naturally, exporting, not so many years ago.

Today when one visits any market in the cities of Inhambane and Maxixe, although the situation in the latter is in some ways different, what is consistently available is the little fish caught in the bay. Even these little fish, which not so long ago were the famous extra (an expression of thanks) added in for the expenditure made, are now the focus of greater attention. And, logically, the stalls selling them are the scene of great disputes, pushing and shoving and perhaps the most heated discussions. "Where there is hunger, everyone talks and no one is right," according to the proverb.

The lucky person who eats fish from the high seas or even the so-called little fish at least once a month achieves this in one of two ways. Either he is a fisherman or his near relatives are, or he deals on the black market, where cigarettes, sugar, soap, batteries and other scarce items are used instead of meticals to buy fish. Another common practice is the exchange of bumper or "sheik" fish for the priority right to buy mackerel or another prime species of fish.

Fishermen complain of a shortage of supplies, and efforts have been and are being made to guarantee them the minimum necessary, just like other ordinary citizens receive. They are demanding fishing equipment, and as far as we know, as compared to earlier periods, they are being provided with some equipment so that they can work the seas. Only if it were necessary to make comparisons of the consumption of goods of first necessity by the fishermen

and their fishing catches, a tremendous headache would be created by the gap between their consumption, which is high, and their production, which is extremely low.

But our real purpose here is not to make comparisons. It is something else, perhaps a far cry from the production factor as such.

From the winning of independence to the present, the province of Inhambane has incomprehensibly grown accustomed to consuming imported fish—bumper and sheik fish (better known as Pedro Bene).

Very recently, between 20 and 22 November last, the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing was held in the seat of the district of Inhassoro (the largest fishing center in the province). Its working agenda included an analysis of the reality in the fishing sector.

Incredible as it may seem, the participants in the seminar saw with their own eyes what a local fisherman called a "lucky day," when he caught in his trawler net no more and no less than a ton and a half of fish in a period of approximately 4 hours. A ton and a half!

And it is here that the problem begins. The people on the Inhassoro coast are almost all fishermen, and thus they rarely allow themselves the luxury of buying shellfish. The result is that after the minor purchases made, basically by government employees, the balance (obviously a large quantity) is cleaned, salted and dried. This ton and a half does not include, moreover, the quantity which the divers took from Bazaruto. Thus the citizens of Inhambane and Maxixe wage frightening battles for the 400 kilograms which Mr Martins delivers regularly, 60 percent of which must be turned over to the PESCOM for the heavy consumers, such as the hospitals, nursery schools and other institutions.

A high-ranking party and government official in Inhambane and I myself, why not, were incredibly surprised by what we saw. Another official told me in confidence that in many cases, our people are not dying because of the drought. Although he admitted that this scourge does play its role, the truth is that we are dying because of ignorance.

In Inhassoro there are about half a dozen fishermen who use mechanical trawling equipment, and one can imagine how much fish would be caught by the end of 2 weeks with an average of 3 tons per day. The total would be nothing less than 180 tons of fish for Inhassoro alone.

If the PESCOM refrigerator truck were to bring us the "high-seas" fish from Inhassoro instead of the "sheik" fish from the city of Maputo, who would gain by this and how much?

I might venture that if foreign exchange were not spared, if at least the quota for the city of Maputo and on the other hand, Inhambane, were increased, the whole area would again be able to consume the "high-class" fish which are plentiful along the approximately 700 kilometers of coastline in the provincial territory.

The Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing examined the question, and in due course made the proper recommendations. If they are implemented, we will again have the famous "dividend" of little fish, very tasty for a small snack, moreover, and not that alone.

Fishermens' Meeting Seeks Solution

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] Traditional and semi-industrial fishermen and many other individuals involved in fishing work met between 20 and 22 November last at the district seat of Inhassoro (the largest fishing center in the province) in what was regarded as an unequalled opportunity, at least in the province of Inhambane, for taking up, among many other things, an assessment of the work done since the first meeting of this sort held in 1983.

The Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane, at which Governor Jose Pascoal Zandamela presided and which was attended by Secretary of State for Fishing Tenreiro de Almeida, was in the opinion of the fishermen themselves a suitable occasion for evaluating the real capacity of this zone of the country, as well as the willingness of the "men of the sea" to contribute to the battle against hunger, the result of the drought which is continuing to take lives.

Another purpose of the gathering was to plan the future of the fishing branch in the province within the context of the 3-year plan, the general guidelines of which had been previously approved at a government session. The fishing sector was deemed to be one of the few viable alternatives for dealing with the food shortages, basically in the interior, caused by the lack of rainfall.

The Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane also assessed the preparations for the establishment next year of the first fishing combine in the history of this part of the country.

The analysis of the activities carried out since 1983 indicated that one of the problems hindering the productive development of the semi-industrial sector in the fishing industry was, and to a certain extent continues to be, the shortage of bait and ice (both in the specific case of the city of Inhambane) and the lack of repair shops for ships' engines, skilled technicians for shipbuilding and transport facilities for shipping fuels, particularly where the districts of Inhassoro and Vilanculo are concerned.

In the traditional sector, the difficulties in the past 3 years have had to do with inadequate supplies of fishing equipment and materials and goods of first necessity required by the fishermen, as well as the fact that Inhambane Bay has been impoverished in terms of marine life, due in the opinion of the participants in the seminar to the lack of a conservation period, although there was no confirmation of this from the Fishing Research Institute.

The low level of the volume of fish supplied to cities and towns, as well as the interior, in the 3 years which have passed since 1983 was also due to the

diversion of large quantities of fish to markets in the province of Manica and Sofala, instead of its being sold in the province. This was in violation of the existing interprovincial agreements.

When this whole range of issues hindering the development of fishing production and thus the improvement of supplies to the people had been analyzed, the Second Provincial Seminar recommended that the provincial government direct the provincial representatives of the PESCOM to increase the capacity to produce ice, such as to meet the demand. It also recommended that a study be made of the possibility of establishing a workshop for the repair and maintenance of the engines of shallow, average and deep-draft vessels.

Other recommendations made by the seminar had to do with the need to hire skilled Mozambican personnel for shipbuilding at the Inhambane (city) and Vilanculo shipyards, to strengthen the transport facilities of the PESCOM for the shipping of fuels and for its internal functioning, and also to increase the quantities of fishing equipment and materials to be purchased.

The Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane proposed that the granting of new fishing licenses for Inhambane Bay be suspended until the investigation planned by the Fishing Research Institute is completed, and it entrusted the production of bait for the city of Inhambane to the fishing centers in Vilanculo, Inhassoro and Bazaruto.

The conclusion of the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane was marked by the holding of a popular gathering in the Inhassoro district seat, at which the governor of Inhambane reported on the results of the meeting. Inhambane Governor Jose Pascoal Zandamela appealed for a joint effort in fishing and farm production in order to achieve economic independence. In connection with farm production, he also stressed the importance of raising cotton to combat the clothing shortage.

Production Increase Planned for 1987-89

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 83 p 3

[Text] During the 3 years between 1987 and 1989, the fishing centers in the province of Inhambane are expected to produce 20,636 tons of fish at a minimum, representing an increase of about 90 percent over the production figure planned for next year.

This production quota for the next 3 fishing years was established at the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane, which approved the general guidelines for the 3-year plan for the development of fishing activities in this part of the country. The 3-year plan makes it clear that the immediate goal to be achieved is to guarantee a minimum of 20 kilograms of fish per person during 1987, particularly for the urban zones, towns and the interior of the province.

The general directives for the 3-year plan for the development of fishing activities in the province call for the production of about 1,500 tons of fish

next year for the cities of Inhambane and Maxixe alone, with the largest production quota being assigned the district of Inhassoro, which is to produce 1,160 tons of fish.

The guidelines submitted and approved at the conclusion of the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing in Inhambane make it clear that to achieve the goals established, it is necessary to improve the organization of the main fishing centers with a view to a rapid increase in production and productivity. In fact, the fishing centers in Vilanculo, Inhambane, Inhassoro and Nova-Mambone will have priority next year for supplies of fishing equipment and materials, as well as the indispensable fuel.

The level of fish supplied must reach 20 percent of the supplementary products needed in the zones in the interior, where the population total is close to 235,000. To this end, according to the directives, the fishing centers in Vilanculo and Nova-Mambone must contribute 90 tons of dried fish, while the other districts and towns situated along the coast or with a fishing potential because of lakes and rivers must channel their efforts toward guaranteeing a minimum consumption of 20 kilograms per person.

The general directives for the 3-year plan for the development of fishing activities in the province of Inhambane also provide that in 1988, the levels of production and supply must increase by a minimum of 15 percent, taking into account the greater effort to be made by the provincial government through the fishing combine being planned and with the support of the Secretariat of State for Fishing.

In seeking solutions to the problems currently facing the fishing sector in the province, and within the new foreign-exchange management policy, these directives provide that the actions planned for the next 3 years must take into account the need gradually to promote the export of fishing products, including spiny lobster, shark fin, crab, and sea cucumber, among other things, in a first phase.

To this end, the efforts to achieve the goal will be pursued in coordination with the Secretariat of State for Fishing, with the active participation of the fishermen, who will benefit from the legal provisions concerning the new foreign-exchange management policy.

The general directives for the 3-year plan for the development of fishing activities in the province of Inhambane call for guaranteeing the minimum in all the main fishing centers in order to satisfy the demand of the population in other provinces for fish, in accordance with the agreements signed with their respective governments.

Fishermen Welcome Combine Plan

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] The establishment of a fishing combine in the province of Inhambane is viewed by the traditional and semi-industrial fishermen in this part of the country as a wise choice for the resolution of the multiple problems facing

the sector. These include in particular the lack of specialized workshops for the repair and maintenance of ships' engines and facilities for preserving and marketing the product.

Ganha Hakon, a semi-industrial fisherman in Inhassoro, told NOTICIAS that the establishment of the fishing combine will benefit all the fishermen, since, on the basis of the existing prospects, effective support will be provided for the building and repair of ships, workshops for the repair and maintenance of engines, facilities for the preservation and marketing of production, and supplies of fishing equipment.

The owner of two ships for fishing on the high seas, two nets and two tractor mechanisms for trawling, Ganha Hakon has been outfitting ships since 1972 and currently employs more than 40 workers.

With a daily production of about a ton and a half of fish, our interlocutor said that his main difficulties have to do with the shortage of fishing equipment and food for the workers. In connection with the purchase of spare parts and equipment, for example, Ganha Hakon noted that he currently has one tractor mechanism inoperative because of a jammed winch. It can only be repaired in Beira or Maputo, because of the lack of local facilities for the purpose.

"With regard to nets, we have had no major problems, but the same is not the case now with steel cables. Because they are in short supply, we have been forced to reduce the rate of production. For example, we formerly cast trawler nets 3,000 meters, but now the distance is only 2,000, which naturally has its effect on the final result," Ganha Hakon said. He also voiced his concern about the supply of food for the 45 workers he employs. He said that in fact "We have tried to improve the situation through the province of Sofala, with which we have contracts for the supply of some quantities of fish in exchange for food and other products."

Ganha Hakon, a semi-industrial fisherman from Inhassoro, then talked about the possibility of exporting spiny lobster, shark fin, crab and other shellfish within the legal distribution circuits and on the basis of the new foreign-exchange management policy. He said that this would be a wise solution, because with the foreign exchange obtained from exports, equipment, spare parts and fishing materials which are in very short supply could be imported.

The European Economic Community is currently implementing a program of support for the fishing sector in the districts of Vilanculo, Inhassoro and Govuro. At present, according to our information, its efforts have been limited to the shipment of fishing equipment from Maputo to these zones. Our interlocutor praised this undertaking enthusiastically, because the resources in the hands of EQUIPESCA are being made available to the fishermen in the various areas of activity.

Speaking about the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing which was recently held in Inhassoro, Ganha Hakon said it was valuable because "It reminded us of our obligations in this critical phase of the country's economic recovery, to which we are called upon to contribute."

Ganha Hakon said in conclusion that the results of the seminar will make themselves felt in the short, medium and long run, because the directives established call for greater support for the sector, and this will be reflected in an increase in production. "The visits paid to our camps here in Inhassoro made it possible to assess our efforts and the difficulties we face, and it also provided an opportunity for us to confirm that with more support we can do more."

Private Fisherman Speaks

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 86 p 3

[Text] "If what was decided at the Second Provincial Seminar on Fishing held here in Inhassoro is carried out, there will be a substantial improvement in fishing production in the province. The establishment of the fishing combine will benefit the sector with the repair and maintenance of engines, supplies of fishing equipment, and also facilities for preserving, shipping and marketing fish," a local fisherman said.

Victoriano Jorge Cabrita, who has been a semi-industrial fisherman since 1970 in the district of Inhassoro, talked to NOTICIAS. He said that because of the difficulties in transportation, as well as the lack of cold-storage equipment since the PESCOM facilities in that zone were sabotaged in 1982 by the armed bandits, the fish caught is almost entirely dressed, salted, dried and sold on a priority basis in the provinces of Manica and Sofala.

Asked about his difficulties, in particular in supplying the 47 workers employs, Victoriano Cabrita said that he has experienced no major difficulties, because when he sells his fish, he requires that a part of the payment be in goods of first necessity, clothing and other essential goods.

Our interlocutor, who has one ship for fishing on the high seas as well as tractor mechanisms and nets for trawling, obtains a daily yield of about a ton, which he says is profitable. He informed us that he has had no great problems with fuel either. In other words, his fishing activity in Inhassoro has never been paralyzed by a shortage of fuel. He added that the same could be said about some fishing equipment and supplies which have been provided by EQUIPESCA through the provincial intermediaries, or by the European Economic Community, which also distributes goods for EQUIPESCA.

Victoriano Cabrita told NOTICIAS that with a view to doubling his production capacity, he is going to build more ships as well as installing cold-storage chambers to preserve fresh fish for later marketing at various points in the province, as well as other zones in the country, in accordance with the agreement signed by the government of Inhambane with the governments of the other provinces.

Our interlocutor said that although fishing for spiny lobster, which is caught in the nets from time to time at present, is not tradition in this zone, a study has already been undertaken with a view to initiating fishing for this species because of export needs, in coordination with the Secretariat of State for Fishing. Exports will include not only spiny lobster, but also

shark fin and crab. This will make it possible to import equipment, spare parts for ships' engines and tractor mechanisms, as well as other fishing equipment, our interlocutor said.

During this fishing season, which began last October and will end in June of next year, Cabrera hopes to produce 100 tons of fish, a goal which he says will be reached and surpassed.

In fact, from what we were able to see, this goal did not appear to take the real capacity and resources available into account. We say this because between October and the middle of the second half of November alone, Victoriano Cabrera had already produced a little more than 40 tons. This leads us to believe that at this rate, he will be able to achieve a production total of 120 tons in 150 working days, that is to say 5 months.

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BRIEFS

DOCTORS WITHOUT FRONTIERS OFFICE--An agreement formalizing the authorization to undertake and develop work in the health sector in Mozambique was signed in Maputo yesterday morning by representatives of our government and Doctors Without Frontiers, a nongovernmental organization. Based on the agreement signed, this organization, which is staffed by voluntary medical personnel, can establish an office in our country and provide needy people with support by means of programs offering medical care and rehabilitation and the establishment of health centers. Doctors Without Frontiers, an organization which has been working in our country for about a year, is providing emergency health care in the provinces of Tete and Inhambane—more specifically, in the districts of Funhalouro, Inhassoro, Mambone, Mabote and Vilanculo. It provides medicines, food and rehabilitation at health centers which were damaged or destroyed. The agreement was signed by Minister of Cooperation Jacinto Veloso, and on behalf of the nongovernmental organization, by its coordinator in Mozambique, Dr Luc Van Der Veken, shown in the photo exchanging documents. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 23 Dec 86 p 8] 5157

DPRK YOUTH DELEGATION VISIT--The visit paid to the headquarters of the Provincial Committee of the OJM in Maputo yesterday morning, as well as the courtesy visit paid during the afternoon to the headquarters of the Central Committee of the Mozambique Youth Organization and its secretary general, Zacarias Kupela, occurred on the next to the last day of the stay of the youth delegation representing the Union of Working and Socialist Youth of the Democratic People's of Korea which arrived in our country last Thursday. The young Koreans, who came to our country at the invitation of the Mozambique Youth Organization for a 1 week visit, are to return to their country today. The delegation, headed by Li Song Guk, vice president of the Union of Working and Socialist Youth of Korea, came to Mozambique to assess bilateral cooperation, as well as to plan future actions. During their stay in Maputo, the young Koreans participated in a number of meetings with officials of the OJM on various levels and exchanged information on the situations existing in the two countries. The Korean delegation also paid a number of visits to sites of historic, political and cultural interest, as well as farm production centers in the city and province of Maputo. The photo shows the young Koreans talking with an OJM official on the day of their arrival in Maputo. [Text] [Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 16 Dec 86 p 2] 5157

YUGOSLAVIA EXPLORES COUNTERTRADE PROSPECTS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 1 Dec 86 p 2

[Article by Ola Jone]

[Text]

YUGOSLAVIA is exploring ways of entering into counter-trade agreements with Nigeria, its ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Vlatko Cosic, has said.

The ambassador who visited the *New Nigerian* Newspapers Limited, Lagos office told the Managing Editor Mr. Ndanusa Alao that if the deal was approved, his country would be interested in various products from Nigeria.

Some of the products he mentioned include cocoa butter, coal bitumen, rubber, columbite, cotton, groundnut, zinc and lead. Mr. Cosic explained that his country would be ready to carry out investment projects which were of interest to the federal government in exchange for whatever product it lifted from Nigeria.

He said that exchange for commodities from Yugoslavia would be based on products which Nigerian counterparts might consider as of interest.

The ambassador also disclosed that his country was exploring the possibility of entering into cooperation with Nigeria in the area of mass communication.

This, he said was necessary for the two countries so that they could both share experience and also exchange visit with a view to promoting understanding between Nigeria and Yugoslavia.

Enumerating federal government's project handled by

Yugoslav firms, Mr. Cosic spoke of the trade fair complex in Oja Road, ASCON in Badagry, Hadejia Irrigation system in Kano and Savannah Sugar project in Gongola State.

The ambassador further disclosed that his country was building a multi purpose cargo vessels with 16,000 dead weight tonnes for the Nigeria National shipping line while 2 out of 33 Yugoslav companies based in Nigeria since 1966 had entered a joint venture with Nigeria to set up drug manufacturing companies in the country.

Mr. Cosic described the South African planned attack on Nigeria as "surprising, strange and unrealistic."

He expressed his country's support for imposition of sanctions against the South African government because "it is only sanction that can solve the problem of apartheid in South Africa."

The ambassador who also said that his country supported the struggle of the Frontline States and the majority rule in South Africa said Yugoslavia shares identical views with Nigeria on various crisis that engulf African continents.

He also emphasised on the need for South-South cooperation so that the developing countries would have their fair share in the world.

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INFORMATION MINISTER MOMOH ON HIGH INFLATION

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 5 Dec 86 pp 1, 3

[Text] The Information Minister, Mr Tony Momoh, yesterday in Lagos announced that the inflation in the country now stood at 300 percent.

Launching the first phase of "the campaign against the rising cost of living," Mr Momoh said the campaign was necessary because the situation could "no longer be condoned either by sheer force of reason or by the dictates of people's pocket."

He further said the rising cost of living no longer required merely appealing to a sense of fairness and justice, but a campaign because "no well-meaning government like ours will be satisfied to wait while many of its citizens live in abject poverty."

The minister said unless the masses organised themselves into consumer and cooperative societies, lowering the cost of living would always elude them.

Mr Momoh then called on the media, cultural groups, age grades and market women to form co-operative associations as a means of cutting down inflation.

He stressed that it was mandatory for manufacturers and industrialists to fix and display prices of their goods.

In her speech, the First Lady, Mrs Maryam Babagida, said women had played significant roles in the economic development of the country.

She said, although they might not have been adequately rewarded, they were satisfied with seeing their children happier, healthier and better educated.

Mrs Babangida then appealed to all market women, manufacturers, distributors and transporters to assist the government in its long-term plans to make life easier for all.

The address of the First Lady was read by the wife of the Chief of General Staff, Mrs Augustus Aikhomu.

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CSO: 3400/801

NUMBER OF EXPATRIATE QUOTA APPLICATIONS FALLS

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 6 Dec 86 pp 1, 11

[Article by Abubakar Umar]

[Text]

THE number of expatriate quota applications had decreased following government directive that in granting quota to companies, the Ministry of Internal Affairs should ensure that at least two Nigerians understudied the expatriate on such positions.

Minister of Internal Affairs, Colonel John Shagaya told newsmen in Abuja yesterday that the objective was not to harm foreign business but to encourage indigenous participation and eventual running of such businesses.

He assured foreign investors of undisturbed returns on their investments as Nigerians acquired the technology and expertise to run such businesses.

He said between January and October, 1,920 quota applications were treated, out of which 967 were withdrawn with a view to creating more job opportunities for qualified Nigerians.

During the same period, Colonel Shagaya said, 243 applications were received from prospective investors seeking permission to establish businesses. He said 161 were interviewed but only 96 companies were granted business permits.

He said the remaining 65 were recommended for approval subject to fulfilment of certain conditions, such as evidence of acquisition of land and purchase of

equipment.

On the issuance of passports and travel certificates, Colonel Shagaya said although the passport office was set up to render social services, the measures introduced to enhance security had yielded good financial returns.

He said 141,658 passports were issued in 1985 with a revenue of 7,157,832 Naira realised, while 8,919,344 Naira was realised from the sale of 133,925 passports between January and October this year.

Colonel Shagaya said government planned to computerise the Nigerian passport system to ensure security and minimise delays in processing application forms and urged Nigerians to give the maximum co-operation.

Meanwhile, the Department of Customs and Excise in the Ministry of Internal Affairs realised 2.4 billion Naira as revenue between January and September this year.

The Minister in charge of the ministry, Colonel John Shagaya, disclosed in Abuja yesterday.

He said the revenue target set for the department in the current year was 2.9 billion and the areas included duties on imports, exports, excise duties and other fees, along with the recently abolished 30 per cent import levy.

Colonel Shagaya, who was addressing a press conference, said during the period under review, revenue realised from import

He illustrated by saying while there were 1,040 seizures involving 366 suspects between January and August last year, there were 756 seizures involving 266 suspects for the same period this year.

In the meantime, the national identity card project has been scheduled to take off latest next June, Minister of Internal Affairs, Colonel John Shagaya, has said.

He added that a pilot scheme would however be undertaken to test out the routines, procedures and other related activities mapped for the registration before the take off date.

He told a press conference in Abuja yesterday that what had delayed the take off was the execution of essential infrastructural facilities.

Colonel Shagaya said the facilities were the creation of computer houses in all the state capitals and Abuja, the installation and commissioning of the computers, micro film and electromechanical equipment.

duties was 795.4 million Naira, export duties 2.64 million Naira; and excise duties 796.7 million Naira.

He said 10.5 million Naira was realised from other fees while 826.4 million Naira was realised from 30 per cent import levy.

The minister said with the amount already collected, it was hoped that the department would exceed the revenue target even though the abolished 30 per cent import levy would have ceased to make its contribution in the last quarter of the year.

On smuggling, Colonel Shagaya said hard drug pushers, in apparent disregard of stiff penalties, were being caught in tens almost daily in our international airports.

He said between January and October this year, 94 hard drug seizures, valued at 30,015,000 Naira were made at the Murtala Mohammed Airport, Ikeja alone.

Colonel Shagaya said except for the stubborn resistance of drug traffickers, there has been an overall decline in smuggling activities.

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CSO: 3400/303

TRANSPORT UNION THREATENS PRICE RISE IF VEHICLE PRICES INCREASE

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 4 Dec 86 p 9

[Article by Sani Babadoko]

[Text]

TRANSPORT fares would go up by exactly 250 per cent from the day the Federal Government approved the proposed 250 per cent increase in prices of vehicles manufactured in Nigeria, the President, National Union of Road Transport Workers (NURTW), Chief Eyo N. Honesty has said.

He said NURTW was setting up a committee to monitor the rumoured increases so as to recommend increases in transport fares.

Chief Honesty said at the opening of NURTW National Executive Council (NEC) meeting in Kaduna yesterday that if the government approved the pro-

posed increase there would be a 'bandwagon effect.' These, he said, included automatic increase in prices of spare parts, motor oil and lubricants, insurance premium, transportation of foodstuff and the "general cost of living in the country."

He said the federal government should remain impervious to "this mad rise in vehicle cost," adding that nobody would love to be faded out of business" as such every Nigerian should bear the brunt and not transport workers alone.

He said "if the government is

considering that the economy of this country could be improved through impervious squeeze of those who operate transport in this country, then it is a failure achieved in a grand style which we will not succumb to."

Chief Honesty called for a "drastic reduction" in prices of vehicles sold in Nigeria and immediate closure of all assembly plants in the country. He also called for the introduction of passenger manifest at all passenger boarding points in the country by NURTW to help "identify travelling passengers in case or cases of accidents."

He urged the government to retire "corrupt police officers" to give way to more honest ones.

"Police must remember that they are part of our society. False issuance of check slips meant to extort and exploit steering drivers throughout the country should stop forthwith" he added.

Chief Honesty said there was a mysterious letter in circulation porported to have emanated from the ministry of labour to state ministries of local government which he said was a slap on Decree No. 17 of 1986. He said the letter was not only inciting but in contempt of the High Courts in the country since the contents involved a case pending in the high court for determination.

POLICE ABLE TO ARREST STUDENTS ON CAMPUSES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Dec 86 pp 1, 3

[Text]

FEDERAL Government has directed all universities to refer to the police any criminal act committed on their campuses by students.

Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sokoto, Professor Mahdi Adamu, said at the eighth convocation ceremony of the university Saturday, that campuses would now be just like any part of the town where the police could go and pick up a suspect.

He said while they would not like to hand over a student to the police, they should now know "if a student plays a wrong music he or she would have to dance to it alone in full."

Professor Mahdi said the ban on student unionism had now been lifted but made voluntary by the government.

He said only a student of good academic standing would be eligible to contest election, adding that they must get "grade point average (GPA) of 2.00 and above."

He said students must matriculate in the university before they could vote, adding

that the measures were being applied to improve the quality of students' unionism.

He said the rate of withdrawals in the university this year was higher than usual and this could be attributed to the students' disturbances in May.

The vice-chancellor also said it had become a regulation in the university that any academic staff who had severed for four years without a masters degree "must leave the academic line."

He said they have about 100 staff attending various courses in and outside the country, with a few of them in the University of Sokoto.

He said their desire was to have a large team of Nigerian Ph.D holders within the next three years.

Professor Mahdi said the introduction of the four-year degree programme was not problem-free and afforded them the chance to review their degree programmes, otherwise the exercise would have been like "a mere attachment to the three year-degree system."

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CSO: 3400/801

SOKOTO STATE ORDERS CLOSURE OF ILLEGAL MOSQUES

Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 8 Dec 86 p 3

[Article by Ibrahim Salihu]

[Text]

SOKOTO State Government had directed secretaries of the 19 local governments in the state to close down "all illegal Jumma'at Mosques."

A letter reference NO/SEC/11/TI/24 signed by the Permanent Secretary, Careers and Special Services Departments, Alhaji Abdullahi Isa, said such mosques should apply for permission to operate in accordance with the law if they wished to remain open.

The permanent secretary said they had received information that "the illegal mosques" were established without proper authority, adding that the directive had been copied to his counterpart in the Ministry of Local Government for his information and record purposes.

The *New Nigerian* understood that the local government

secretaries had in turn sent copies of the letter to all district and village heads, religious bodies referred to as "religious parties" and other law enforcement agencies.

Full text of the statement reads: "I am directed to draw your attention to the fact that information is still reaching this office that Jumma'at Mosques are being established without proper authorities which is contrary to the law.

"It is in view of this you are directed to ensure that all illegal Jumma'at Mosques are closed down and if they are worth to continue, they should apply in accordance with the law.

"This letter has been copied to the permanent secretary Ministry for Local Government for his information and record purpose."

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CSO: 3400/803

AIR FORCE COMMODORE ON CALABAR UNIT

Kaduna SUNDAY NEW NIGERIAN in English 7 Dec 86 p 16

[Article by Clement Unegbu]

[Text] Arrangements have reached an advanced stage to establish a unit of the Air Force in the Cross River State capital, Calabar, as part of plans to beef up the security of the country.

Speaking on the arrangements, the Air Officer Commanding the Tactical Air Command of the Nigerian Air Force, Air Commodore, Nuraini O. O. Yusuf, explained that the action was necessitated by the important role Nigeria was playing in African politics and the need to defend our territorial air space.

Air Commodore Yusuf, who made the disclosure during a courtesy call on the state governor, Naval Commander Ibim Princewill, expressed satisfaction with the extent of work done so far by the state government towards the movement of an Air Force base to Calabar.

A national weekly based in Lagos had reported only a fortnight ago that racist regime in South Africa was planning to carry out an air raid on some strategic places and installations in Nigeria.

The proposed raids were said to be a reprisal for Nigeria's role aimed at dismantling the inhuman system of apartheid. The targets earmarked for attack include the three refineries in Port Harcourt, Warri and Kaduna.

Reacting to the newspaper report, Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Sani Abacha, confirmed that Nigeria had been receiving such reports in the past, and had not overlooked them.

Major-General Abacha, however, assured the nation that Nigeria was combat ready and would not only contain, but would even forestall any such attacks.

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CSO: 3400/802

JAAP MARAIS EXPECTS TO ANNOUNCE COOPERATION BETWEEN CP, HNP

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 13

[Article: "Marais Suggests: Announce Cooperation on 24 January"]

[Text] The so-called unity conference of the Conservative Party [CP] on 24 January should be transformed into a great gathering at which a cooperation agreement between the Herstigte Nasionale Party [HNP] and the CP is announced.

So said the leader of the HNP, Mr Jaap Marais, in an interview with DIE AFRIKANER this week. Mr Marais took this important initiative against the backdrop of reports that there are serious reservations among ordinary CP members about the plans of the CP leadership for a unity conference. One CP divisional committee--that at Standerton--has already asked the CP leadership to resume negotiations with the HNP on policy matters.

Mr Marais told DIE AFRIKANER that various CP supporters had made representations to him about joint action by the HNP and the CP in the expected coming by-elections. "The problems of a rapid unification of the two parties were also discussed in depth, and the CP members concerned and I jointly came to the conclusion that unification is a laborious and drawn-out process. Every branch and divisional committee of each of the parties must, for example, be dissolved and reconstituted into a new branch and divisional committee with newly elected officers. It is a process that gives rise to many problems of mutual rivalry that will keep the new central bodies of such a unified party busy for a long time. This will be at a time when the party ought to be harnessing all its forces against the government."

Mr Marais said that everyone had agreed that from a purely practical point of view it was undesirable to attempt a hasty unification before the general election that was likely to take place in April next year.

Asked by DIE AFRIKANER what solution he had proposed, the HNP leader replied: "My position is that the negotiations over a cooperation agreement between the parties should be resumed as soon as possible so that 24 January can be used for the announcement of a cooperation agreement. That then becomes the date on which the two parties can immediately join forces against the government."

Mr Marais said furthermore that CP members had asked him whether he was ready for talks with the leader of the CP, Dr Andries Treurnicht, with a view to a cooperation agreement. "My answer was in the affirmative. There has already been a proposal to this effect from the HNP side at one of the earlier discussions between the parties.

"My abovementioned position on these matters would be conveyed to Dr Treurnicht. If we are serious about fighting the government, that is the obvious way," Mr Marais stated.

12906/12851
CSO: 3401/76

DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH ON BRINK OF SCHISM

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 10 Dec 86 pp 1, 13

[Article: "Conservatives Demand White Church: Dutch Reformed Church Faces Split"]

[Text] The NGK [Dutch Reformed Church] is inexorably headed for schism.

Amid increasing tension and upheaval in the Church, conservatives are demanding that it give up its official policy of being open to everyone. They are calling for a new resolution requiring the Church to declare itself a white church to be adopted at an extraordinary General Synod. Observers believe, however, that the likelihood of such a Synod being summoned is extremely small. The left wing in the Church will definitely not be willing to give up the gains it made at the recent General Synod, it is said.

Conservative opposition to the decisions of the General Synod is rapidly increasing in scope. The roughly 3,000 members who attended last week's gathering in the Skilpad Hall in Pretoria are apparently just the tip of the iceberg. There have been reports in the meantime of widespread unrest in the Church, with church councils rejecting the Synod's decisions and others that have already begun to withhold their Synod contributions.

The chairman of the Continuation Committee of the objecting members, Prof W. J. G. Lubbe, told DIE AFRIKANER, however, that he still has confidence in the negotiations to be conducted with the church leadership. "I don't want to predict that the negotiations will fail. We won't negotiate if we think the negotiations are going to fail."

Prof Lubbe emphasizes, however, that the white nature of the NGK is not negotiable. "We want to reserve membership in our Church for our own people. There is already a universal Church of Christ to which all believers belong. That Church takes shape in the cultural foundations of peoples."

Aside from open membership, conservatives also object to the policy of the Synod that unity takes precedence over diversity, Prof Lubbe says. Diversity is thereby forgotten, and priority is given to unity.

The way in which apartheid has been dragged into the Church and society is also unacceptable, Prof Lubbe asserts. Apartheid is the only political system that is discussed. Apartheid is caricatured; it is condemned, and then blame has to be taken for it.

Prof Lubbe says a request is going to be made for the calling of an extraordinary General Synod. The resolutions of the General Synod to which exception is taken must be reformulated, because no interpretation of them can be satisfactory.

The Continuation Committee is going to draw up a list of grievances for submission to the General Synodal Commission, says Prof Lubbe. At the same time, preparations will, however, also be made for the possibility of the negotiations failing. These preparations will, however, take second place, Prof Lubbe says.

In a resolution that was adopted unanimously at the Pretoria gathering, it is emphasized that it is not the conservatives who are trying to split the Church. "We are not schismatics. We are not the ones who ignited the veld fires of dissatisfaction; it was the General Synod. We did not create a crisis situation in the Church; we are simply taking crisis measures."

The document says that a Synod should ask itself whether it knows its people when the resolutions of such a Synod stir up so many objections from so many members in so many places. "Is the fault simply with 'stubborn members'? Has the Synod itself not perhaps alienated many of its own church members with its resolutions?"

Among the decisions of the Pretoria gathering that caused most stir was the one advising members to withhold contributions to their congregations and send them to the Continuation Committee. This decision drew an especially heated response from the executive of the Synodal Commission, which took note of it with "dismay" in a statement. DIE AFRIKANER has been authoritatively told that a reduction of only 20 percent in contributions may plunge the NGK into a serious financial crisis.

According to Prof Lubbe the Continuation Committee's petition of protest will be dispatched in April or May next year. A resolution at last week's gathering provides for the committee to report back to a gathering of objectors before the end of June.

The address of the Continuation Committee is 101 Semar Building, Corner of Pretorius and Du Toit Streets, Pretoria. The provisional telephone number is (012) 26-9085.

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CSO: 3401/76

WHITE FARMERS' LAND TO BE GIVEN TO BLACKS

Pretoria DIE AFRIKANER in Afrikaans 10 Dec 86 p 5

[Article: "Official Lets Cat Out of Bag: Thousands of White Farms for Blacks"]

[Text] Government policy currently aims at moving 5.5 million blacks to the cities from the "homelands" and the settlement of black "farmers" on 2.8 million hectares that are now white agricultural land.

This astonishing development emerges from a lecture recently delivered by a senior official of the government's Southern African Development Bank, Dr Matthew Cobbett, at a symposium at York University, in Britain. On this occasion Dr Cobbett also met official representatives of the ANC and members of the UDF.

According to reports, the ANC was not supposed to talk to Dr Cobbett, because the foreign universities have instituted an academic boycott against South Africa under ANC pressure, but that organization sent official "observers" to attend the congress. Members of the UDF were not thus restricted and also took part freely in the discussion that followed the lecture.

Those in the know believe that Dr Cobbett's calculated indiscretion was intended to reassure the radical left wing about the swing to the right that the National Party [NP] is expected to make in the coming general election.

They say that since the abolition of the Economic Research Bureau of the Department of Cooperation and Development (BENSO), the government-controlled Southern African Development Bank has been one of the two think tanks in which the government's future socioeconomic policy is developed. The head of the bank, Dr Simon Brand, who also took part in the York symposium, is responsible for this research.

The other think tank is the Central Economic Advisory Service (SEA) under the direction of Mr Jan Dreyer. The SEA is part of the office of the state president.

Dr Cobbett proceeds from two assumptions. One is that the government party will soon bring into being a "government of national unity" on a social democratic and capitalist basis, which will satisfy the land hunger of homeland "farmers" on a large scale at the expense of white farmers.

The second assumption is that government policy will no longer attempt to decentralize industries to the homelands, but will instead seek through its urbanization policy to concentrate industries in the cities and settle the superfluous homeland blacks in the cities.

On this basis Dr Cobbett then explains how the "fundamental question"--the "spatial inequalities" resulting from the Land Act of 1913--is to be resolved.

He points out that agriculture--both traditional subsistence agriculture and agricultural production for the market--is at best a supplementary source of income in the "homelands." Forty percent of the 2,340,000 homeland families, or 5.5 million out of 14 million people, own no land and are functionally already urbanized. In 1984 the value of agricultural production per family was on the average only 240 rands per year. In Venda the value of agricultural production per family was on average 341 rands, followed by the Transkei, where it amounted to 327 rands. The value of agricultural production as a percentage of total earnings per family was the highest in the Transkei, with 31.2 percent, and the lowest in KwaNdebele, with 1.3 percent.

Wages from mining, trade and industry comprised the greatest part of family income.

Even if only the homeland families who do own agricultural land are taken into account, only 2 hectares of land are owned per family. Broadly speaking, Dr Cobbett told DIE AFRIKANER when he was approached for further details, a black family needs 4 hectares to make a living from traditional black agriculture.

The first task will therefore be to make room in the present urban complex for 950,000 landless black families, or 5.5 million people, who currently live under urban conditions in the "homelands."

Dr Cobbett takes the government's urbanization policy, according to which no more industries are to be established in the "homelands" or the white countryside, as a starting point. The landless families in the "homelands" must be settled in the cities, where they will be closer to existing employment opportunities.

Furthermore, half the remaining families will have to leave the "homelands" for new ground in order that those who remain can be given 4 hectares of land.

Those who leave--700,000 families, or 4.2 million people--will also have to receive 4 hectares per family on land expropriated from white farmers at prices that will be much lower than those received by farmers who sold for consolidation purposes.

A total of 2.8 million hectares will be required for this settlement of black subsistence "farmers" among the white farms, Dr Cobbett says.

For comparison, the total area currently planted to corn by white farmers is 4.2 million hectares according to NAMPO [not further identified].

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